

BEST KITCHENS & BATHROOMS



PART 1

THE VERY BEST OF THE BEST DESIGNS FROM ABODE

abode

EDITED BY GARY TAKLE

Kitchen by Edge Interior Designs. Photography by Remco Jansen.



BEST KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

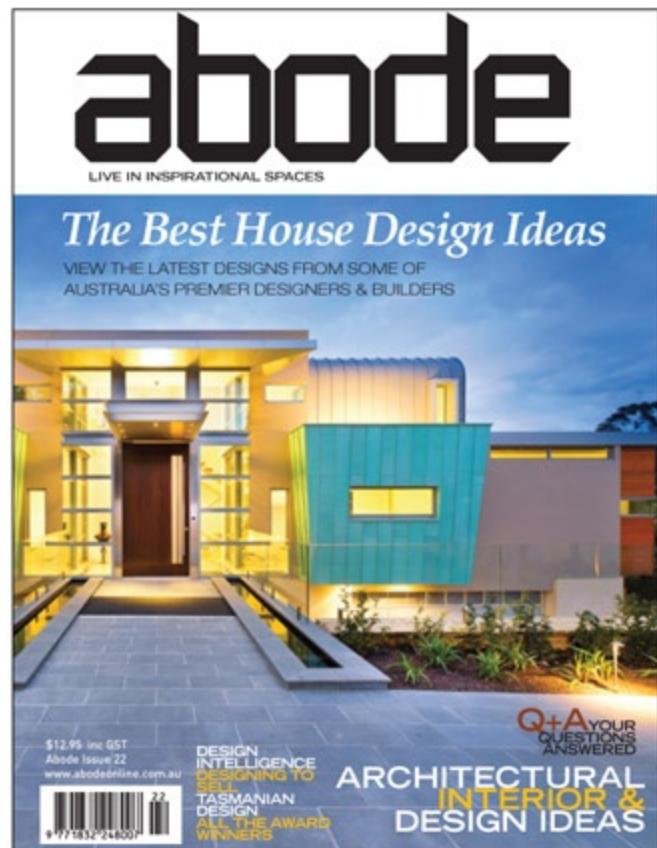
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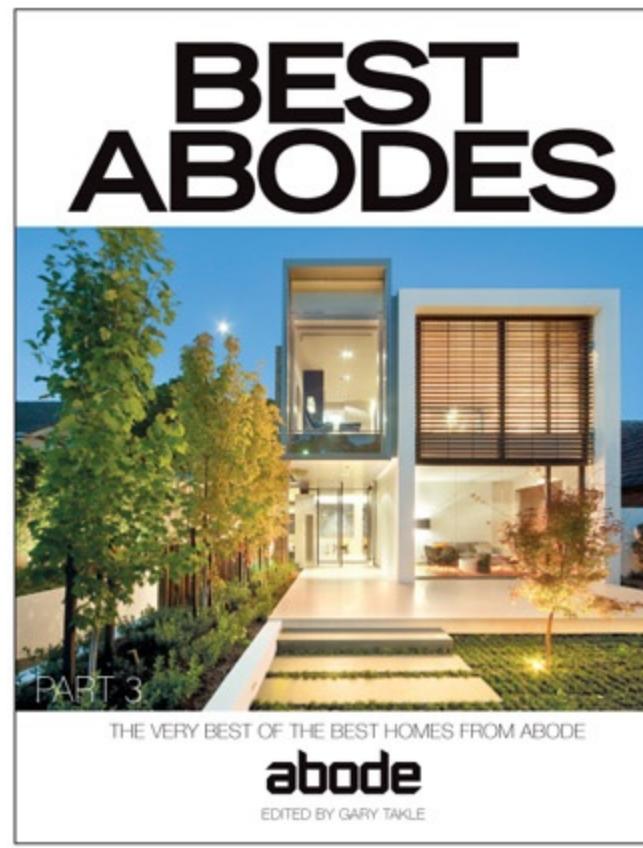
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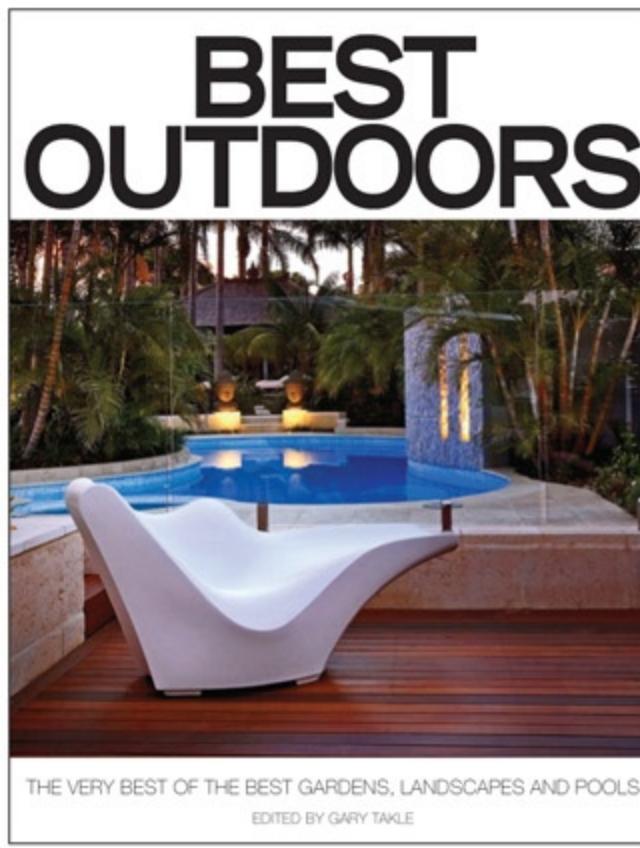
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Current issue \$12.95

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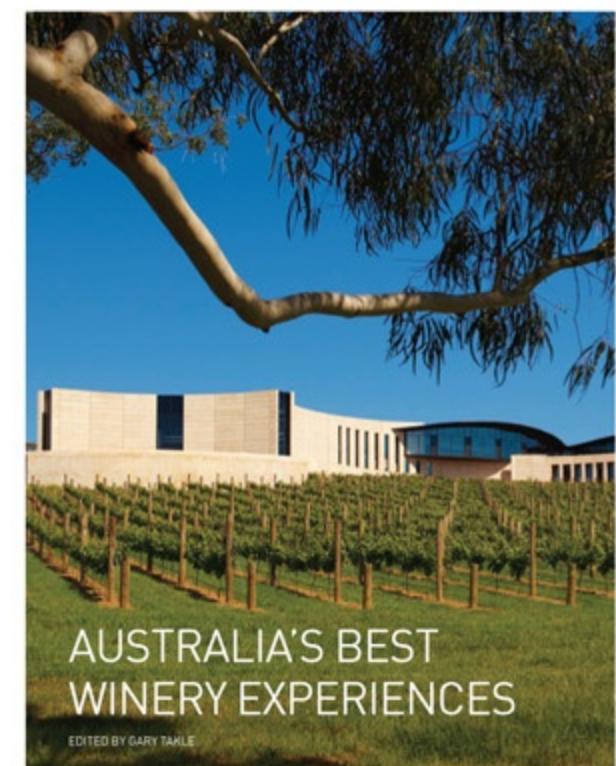
Best Abodes Part Two and Part Three
224 pages : \$19.95 each

This book showcases the very best Australia has to offer in architectural, interior and design ideas.



Best Outdoors Part One and Part Two
224 pages : \$19.95 each

These days we are willing to go to great lengths to make sure our little outdoor patch of Australia is the perfect space to spend time in.



Australia's Best Winery Experiences
ISBN: 978-0-9808314-4-3
Soft cover, 224 pages. RRP: \$39.95
Size: 270mm x 230mm wide

This book takes a comprehensive approach to visiting wineries in Australia. We consider the location, architecture, food and even the views to be just as important as the wine.



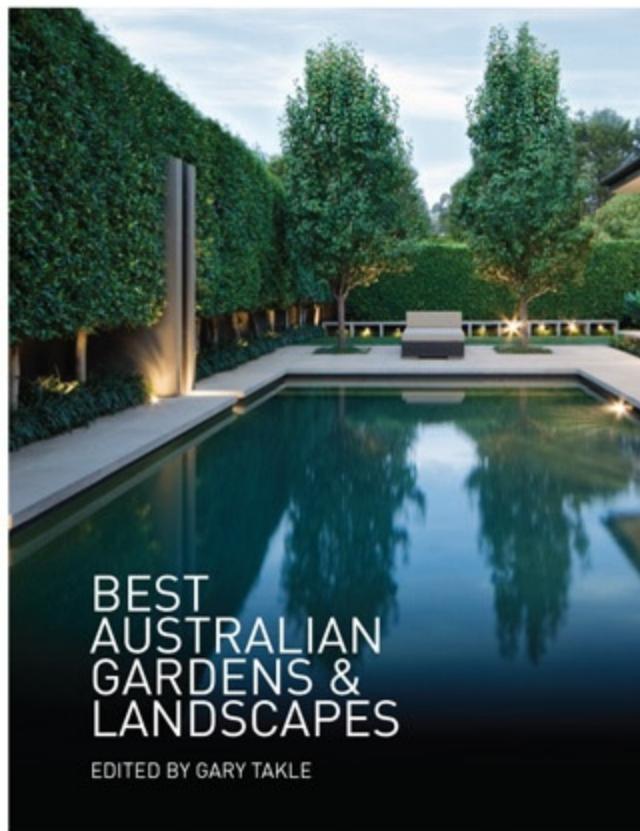
Best Australian Architecture
ISBN: 978-0-646-52982-0
224 pages RRP: \$39.95
Size: 270mm x 210mm wide

Created for both industry specialists and for those who appreciate good design. This book is pitched at design-savvy readers who are looking beyond the mainstream to establish new rules and trends to create living spaces that illustrate who they are.



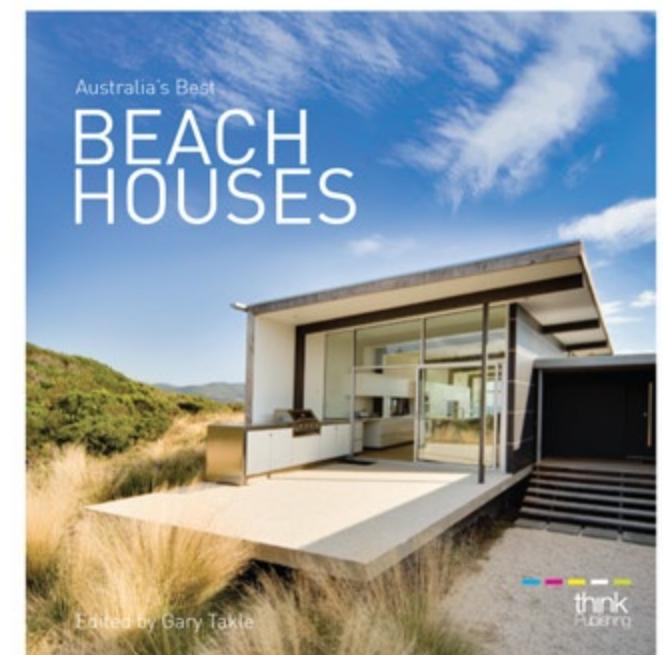
Best Australian Interiors
ISBN: 978-0-9808314-0-5
224 pages RRP: \$39.95
Size: 270mm x 210mm wide

In these modern times, our homes are becoming our sanctuaries and Australians are spending more time and money on their personal dwelling spaces. Featuring informative editorial, this book instructs the reader on how to achieve a result that says 'wow'.



Best Australian Gardens and Landscapes
ISBN: 978-0-9808314-1-2
224 pages RRP: \$39.95
Size: 270mm x 210mm wide

Best Australian Gardens and Landscapes is part of the 'Best Of' series and is an inspirational, pictorial book filled with what is 'now' in Australian garden design.



Australia's Best Beach Houses
ISBN: 978-0-9808314-2-9
Hardcover, 224 pages. RRP: \$49.95
Size: 250mm x 250mm wide

Within the pages of the exciting new hard cover book, we walk you through some of Australia's best beach abodes. From modern contemporary to some more classic design styles, this book has something for everybody.

The kitchen is often considered the social hub of our homes, while the bathroom is the private hub. In this book we take you inside some of the best in the country.



The kitchen is the most used space in the home of today. It is here that we entertain, gather, celebrate and where we create signature meals for family and friends. It is most of all considered a place where people congregate and interact. The lounge space usually has the television doing all the talking but the kitchen is where we are free to express ourselves and share our lives with each other. For this reason the kitchen space needs to reflect its multi purposes. In this publication, we have showcased a broad range of kitchen styles and types that will help you create spaces that truly reflect who you are.

Equally we have the full gamut of bathroom styles. From open air tropical locations to the more luxury traditional bathroom suite, we have aimed to bring something for every taste.

Overall, my desire in producing this publication is for you to find an abundance of ideas for inspiration when creating your own special abode.

G. Takle
Gary Takle - Editor

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BEST KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

THE VERY BEST OF THE BEST KITCHEN
AND BATHROOM DESIGNS FROM ABODE

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Distribution : Gordon & Gotch

To buy back issues call: (03) 9404 5579

Web : www.abodeonline.com.au



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Seamless Connection

An ever changing ocean seascape takes centre stage in this exquisitely appointed kitchen.





Overlooking lush green grass flowing out towards the white wash of the Pacific Ocean and the wide open blue water, this unique kitchen sits proudly as a focal point in a magnificent living space.

The lateral thinking owners desired the sensual beachside environment to feature prominently in a timeless, beautiful and practical home. It was therefore imperative that all design and finish selections, whilst luxurious, did not detract from the inherent beauty of the home's location and stunning outlook.

Designed for a family with three young boys, the focus of the large, multi-faceted kitchen is on the simplification of daily routines, ample storage and suitability for a busy beach and pool lifestyle.

Rachel Kenway, the director of Edge Design and Interiors, dedicated two years to creating the perfect home for her clients. Both spacious, modern and with clean lines, the kitchen pays attention to timber detailing which is carried throughout the home. These joinery details are what give the home reference to previous design eras whilst lending a sense of quirkiness that is permanent in its appeal.

Cascading over the edges of a solid but light-feeling island bench is a slab of natural stone. This striking material is applied to the adjacent workspace, extending up to a low profile splash back. The cabinets overhead are given an interesting depth by projecting to different degrees. This effect is mirrored below the island bench to create additional leg room where breakfast barstools are located

While cool grey concrete flooring defines the busy pathways, wide oak tongue and groove boards are light and welcoming in the living areas and kitchen. The darker timber joinery gives contrast to the light floors and white envelope, wrapping elegantly around the kitchen into the butler's pantry. Here, timber joinery is utilised to its utmost for storage and, together with a stainless steel wet area and multiple fridges and freezers, a huge practical space is achieved that is hidden from sight.

Floating gracefully in a space gloriously open to nature, the kitchen promotes both the merging between the interior and exterior, and the old with the new. The simple palette of natural materials complements without eclipsing the beauty of the outlook, whilst giving richness and texture to a large family home. The combination creates a sense of serenity and personifies the leisure lifestyle so fitting to this beachside home.

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Ocean View

In a materialistic era, where the approach to interior fashion is defined by its variation and limitless options, this project makes a statement through simple and restrained design.





A home perched on the dunes, overlooking the Pacific Ocean and adjoining parklands needed an interior that would be a distinctive response to its outlook and the innate beach lifestyle.

Natural materials and simple design lines are utilized to create a sensual connection to the splendor of the home's location. This subtle transition between interior and exterior was the core philosophy of the design process bringing the outside into each element of the home. Equally important was Edge Design and Interiors practical intention for functionality and a focus on uncomplicated detailing.

The sophisticated and simple design of each well-resolved element brings a quiet beauty to this elegant bathroom. Each finish and form in the space has its own identity, addressing both practical and aesthetic requirements.

Extensive timber joinery, though pared back, is quietly bold. Combined with soft concealed lighting, it brings natural contrast to the limestone floor tiles and glass screens. The linear baton detailing of the timber, as seen around the generous spa bath, and other areas gives the open space a textural richness. The spa bath is cleverly set partially into the floor slab, keeping the bath surround low so as not to impede the view to the ever-changing ocean artscape that engages the senses.

Opposite the twin vanity is a textural and subtly prominent sandstone wall, perpetuating the simple palette of natural finishes that together create a sense of relaxation and serenity. A large double shower is recessed to enhance the perceived thickness of the monolithic stone feature wall. The stone wall is kept clean and uncluttered to maximize appreciation of the natural materials and so as not to compete with the view.

Through its contemporary interior design, this project incorporates design principles from eras gone past with the best of the present to create a bathroom that is fitting for this beach side home. Joinery details reminiscent of the past are interpreted in a modern and lasting method, creating a soft and unbiased auditorium from which to enjoy the idyllic location.

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Compact Beauty

The gluttonous notion that bigger is better certainly does not apply to this small space kitchen whose strategic counter space and generous storage come together to make a functional and beautiful cooking area.





During a comprehensive home renovation, the owners wanted to reconfigure their kitchen so as to make better use of the available adjacent living and dining spaces. Though the kitchen needed to be compact, storage was a must as was the minimization of clutter.

Given that the owners had no desire to remodel again in the future, it was imperative that Ben Statkus of Statkus Architecture come up with a design that would not date and be mindful of the placement of appliances and ease of use of cabinetry.

Responding to the client's desire to maximize storage and reduce clutter, Ben instigated the inclusion of cabinetry to the entire end wall of the kitchen, extending into the adjacent living area. The floor to ceiling cupboards enclose the extensions of the bench tops, forming appliance storage with multiple power-points, eliminating the need for appliances to sit in view.

Miele Cooking appliances were installed, including a 2 burner gas hob sitting alongside a 2 element induction cook top. This allows the owners to enjoy the best of both worlds, with appropriate cooking surfaces for whatever cuisine they wish to create.

Existing timber floorboards were sanded and sealed along with the boards in the adjacent living/dining areas. The floor finish of the entire area is consistent, which increases the sense of space.

The glowing Baltic Pine floorboards make for both a textured and coloured base for an all-white colour scheme. The choice to make the kitchen white was made so as to blend the space with the open plan living area and not allow the room to become dominating. Furthermore, the clean palette means the owners can introduce a myriad of colours week to week in the form of vases, bowls etc.

The stark bench top is lit by hand blown glass pendant light fittings from France.

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Translucent Approach

The owners of this not-so-old townhouse in the exclusive Melbourne suburb of Toorak required its full renovation, thus rejuvenating the residence that had been rented out for several years.





Both approaching retirement age, the owners wanted what would become their retirement sanctuary to be luxurious, comfortable and above all functional, the original kitchen being everything but. Though it was large, it lacked the volume of storage and bench space that a keen home chef requires.

Since the renovation encompassed the whole house, all five bathrooms and the laundry were kept to the common theme set by the gorgeous new kitchen.

A white base makes the space look fresh and clean. The Laminex Antique White gloss 2pac used to finish the joinery cleverly achieves a warmth that ensures the room does not feel clinical – the last thing that the medical professional couple wanted. The remainder of the kitchen is highlighted with Sage CaesarStone bench tops with waterfall edges.

A 'White on Clear' glass splash back that stretches the length of the wall behind the main bench, gives the space its signature translucent personality. Furthering this effect is a shimmering green, rippled glass panel to the back of the island bench, appearing like glistening, tranquil water.

Stainless steel handles to the joinery and brushed stainless steel kick boards bring together the suite of Meile and Fisher & Paykel appliances.

Every necessity was considered when it came to the equipment fit-out, from the French door fridge to the twin convection and steam ovens. Perhaps the loveliest piece is the striking glass and stainless steel canopy range hood topping the induction stove.

A small desk is incorporated into the space, as is a cupboard below the bench to store the bulky bain-marie used for the owner's larger dinner parties, alongside a stool for the desk.

Given that the home was on the lower level of the complex, effective lighting was an issue. To combat this, Mint Kitchens designed some feature bulkheads through the kitchen and living areas which would house some clever lighting solutions and simultaneously dress up the rooms with that extra class.

Now looking forward to retirement, the owners of this impressively renovated townhouse can enjoy both the beauty and comfort they so desired in their new home.

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Transformed Living

A dilapidated Melbourne warehouse has been converted into a contemporary residence with a kitchen that both impresses and invites.





Like many industrial areas in urban Melbourne, Collingwood is undergoing an almost hidden transformation into a trendy residential area, with untouched warehouse façades fronting funky internal renovations.

As with many of these conversions, this new home sees the retention of the rough brick walls and timber beams overhead – rustic elements that are contrasted with sleek and modern additions.

As frequent entertainers, the owners needed this kitchen to be as one with the living area but also transform the open space into a cosy retreat. To this end, the space is completely open but inhabits a good amount of room with some imposing features that extend up to the lofty ceiling and make up for the lack of intimacy provided by the once bare space.

The modern and streamline look sits comfortably within the rough industrial warehouse, with the sleek and simple surfaces creating a deliberate disparity with the timber floors and existing rough and worn brick walls. White silk laminex cabinetry reflects the white plaster that is still evident on the brick. The handless cabinetry incorporates a roller door appliance compartment, furthering an industrial look, as well as keeping the kitchen looking clean and uncluttered.

To ensure the room was not stark, Freestyle by CaesarStone was utilised for the bench tops. The clean white look is imbedded with flecks of colour,

adding a sense of playfulness that isn't overpowering. Bright orange splash backs provide a fantastic pop of colour, coordinating with the bench top. Working with the timber floors covered in striped white and orange rugs, these colourful features add extra warmth to the space.

Another stand out element is the range hood, with extra extended flue. This perpetuates the room's industrial personality, extending high up to the ceiling and creating a wow factor. The seating area below is lined with fun bar stools that appear as giant bottle tops. Panels behind this area are muted in colour, maintaining the importance of afore mentioned key elements.

As well as being practical and fulfilling the owner's desire for a striking space, the kitchen fills the warehouse with a fun, warm ambience perfect for entertaining friends and family.

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Modern Makeover

Turning their dark, timber-paneled kitchen into a bright and modern oasis was the best thing the owners could have done – opening up the space and encouraging family interaction.





Lindsay Williams of Mint Kitchens by Lifestyle was engaged by the owners of this 1970s Wheelers Hill home, to design and renovate their tired kitchen. The quality and innovation of the result is obvious, so much so that the new kitchen went on to receive the title of Victoria's KBDI kitchen of the Year 2010.

The house featured many of the popular design elements of its era, including split levels and extensive timber paneling. The closed-in feel that the old kitchen had due to both its layout and a bulk head ceiling, was opened up and modernized in such a way that the design was in keeping with the timber-dominated elements of the rest of the house.

Most of the bulkhead was removed and the part that stayed for structural reasons was plaster lined and painted white to minimize its presence in the design. The entire space was reconfigured to accommodate a breakfast bar, a wall of storage and an easy entrance that linked the kitchen to the meals area. The expansive new bench tops are finished in reconstituted quartz in 'Whisper' by CaesarStone. Other improved functional elements include a three-drawer, roll-out pantry, a bottle draw near the cook-top, an appliance cabinet, waste separation bins and banks of drawers for crockery, cutlery and saucepans, allowing for an uncluttered workspace with ease of access to everything.

Cupboards and drawers beneath the bench are matt finished in 'Stipple Seal' by Laminex, with kick boards to match. This is complimented by a wood-grain 'Shannon Oak' finish by Polytec to the tall and wall cupboards. Toughened glass painted on the back face with dark olive 2pac forms the splash-back, which picks up both the colours of the cabinets to complete the palette.

For a light touch, lift-up aluminium framed overhead cupboards in frosted glass were chosen for the space above the cook-top and bench. This draws the eye towards the garden view from the newly opened frameless windows and emphasises the feeling of space.

With a neutral palette that blends with the timber panel styling of the house, the contemporary makeover gives an airy and spacious feel to a functional room in which the family can now spend most of their time.

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Clever Thinking

Thinking outside the box is what Mint Kitchens do best. Taking the latest in modern design, they have created an astounding, streamlined kitchen with entertainer's appeal, while integrating design innovations lent from the North-American market.





Designed by Mint Kitchens with the active entertainer in mind, this highly streamlined area offers occupants a stylish and functional alternative to the boring, everyday, run of the mill kitchen.

Taking pride of place in the centre of the room is the gorgeous island bench. With a striking twin waterfall edged CaesarStone countertop and two under mounted cubic basins, the quality Franke Faucet only enhances an already amazing focal point. Below its fantastic facade, Laminex Contour Linear Cabinetry with metal pull handles add a second colour to the palette and a full size dishwasher completes the functional, yet minimal wet area in style and grace.

Flecks of white from the countertop are reflected onto the overhead cabinetry of the preparation area, with a 2PAC glossy white finish. One of the most impressive features of the kitchen, though, is the integration of two fridges into the design. On the left hand side of the room, large, gloss white cabinets double as doors to the fridge, allowing assimilation in design with no impact on the design of the kitchen at all. Dominating the North-American market for over a decade, the integrated cabinet fridges are an innovative design that are finally being adopted by designers in Australia and utilised for the clever adaptability they epitomise. No longer

will there be a need to match the fridge to your new kitchen – here is the solution.

Adding a third tone is the large pantry and under bench cabinetry opposite the island. Using the same Laminex material as below the sink, the Oyster tone creates a unique sense of interest and a streamlined sensibility. With handle-less drawers and cupboard solutions, the stainless steel oven, cook top and range hood really stand out as features of the kitchen.

With only the latest in design, Mint Kitchens have succeeded in creating a masterpiece of clarity and perfection. Sleek lines, complementary stainless steel appliances and a palette of tonal contrast blends to culminate in a wonderful aesthetic of pleasure – ideal for entertaining.

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Floating Elegance

Pushing the boundaries of what is achievable with clever design and construction is this gorgeous contemporary kitchen.





The contrast between the light Whisper White satin polyurethane joinery and the Smoked Oak timber veneer is harmoniously tied together with two toned recycled Mosaici Marrone quartz stone from Caesarstone. This feature is used most dramatically in the gravity-defying cantilevered island bench top. A stainless steel shelf and drop-off bench along with flat bar handles add a third finish that completes the palette.

The L-shaped kitchen in this Innovative Building Projects display home is designed by Kier Gregg at Archertec Interiors and is a focal point to the open plan lounge and dining space. Being an eight star energy rated home, it is a showcase of some of the latest trends and innovations in sustainable building techniques and materials.

Full height joinery incorporates the entry to the pantry, a large fridge space, Miele combi oven, Miele coffee machine, an appliance cupboard which provides great storage, and plentiful work zone bench in front that serves as the set down space to the fridge, combi oven and coffee machine. The bench runs perpendicular to the full height joinery and forms the cooking zone of the kitchen with a large work space to the left of a Miele gas cook top with under-bench oven. The splash back incorporates a large window allowing natural light into the kitchen and a view to the garden outside. The remainder of the wall surface is colour-back glass in the same tone as the joinery for a bright and fresh look.

The concealed range hood is boxed out with a stainless steel shelf that cantilevers to provide a decorative feature display. All this is framed by a dark timber veneer bulkhead giving the joinery strength and purpose; running around the room, it provides lighting to the bench top and turns down to frame the pantry. Prior to entering the pantry there is an easily accessible cupboard for frequently used items.

A CaesarStone Osprey stone blade wall secretly conceals a mass of steel structure to support the cantilevered bench tops which house an under-mount sink, dishwasher and bin. LED strip lighting under the island bench emphasises the fact that it effortlessly floats off the floor. The double sink has clean square lines and complimentary sink mixer to provide a sharp contemporary touch to the design. The lower level of feature joinery on the outer face of the kitchen allows for miscellaneous storage to be easily accessed without interrupting the work zone and also doubles as a table height breakfast bench.

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A Flexible Space

This elegant ensuite, designed by Sonja Archer of Archertec Interiors was planned to maximize the clients every requirement.

The wish list for this room included a large freestanding bath, a large two person vanity, a spacious shower for two and a toilet suite that was a part of the room but still discrete and private from view. The client also requested that the finishes be classic, elegant and of high quality to last the test of time and fashion.

A large feature glass sliding door, as well as a normal door to the bedroom, was designed to open up the space on one side, giving comfortable access to each side of the bath whether you were entering from the bathroom side or from the bedroom side. This gave the opportunity to free up space in the main bathroom area to allow for a decent sized shower, a larger vanity and still have space to create a screened off toilet area. By opening up the room to the bedroom with the large glass door it gives the bathroom a great sense of space.

Running along the length of the wall opposite the bath is a large vanity unit with a natural stone surface and timber veneer joinery, well designed to sit under a long highlight window that provides natural light to the clients during the day. The mirror extends the full length of the window and creates the illusion of more space.

A large single under-mount basin houses two mixer taps and is seamlessly integrated into the joinery providing a practical but elegant two person vanity. The use of this type of basin design allows for more bench area and

cupboard storage without having to use up valuable space for the additional plumbing required when using two standard basins.

Matching feature joinery has been designed to sit just outside the large glass door, providing a complementary backdrop to the bath area and additional bathroom storage. The joinery screens off the view into the bedroom and creates a private dressing space.

The soft natural tones of the Desert Rose stone floor tile are also utilised as the feature tile to the toilet hob screen and feature walls. The other walls are lined to the ceiling with soft white polished porcelain tiles that expand the perceived space of the room giving it a light and soft feel. Feature glass mosaics are used to add colour along the vanity top and another backdrop feature to one end of the bath, tying in the colours of the stone and timber used in the colour palette.

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A Striking Renovation

These clients with contemporary taste needed a new kitchen that was sensitive to the Victorian history and original details that can be seen throughout this home.





The most important room of this newly renovated house is the kitchen. Both contemporary and functional, it has become the centrepiece of the home and looks almost too good to use!

A main island of CaesarStone Snow Quartz forms the foundation for a feature chocolate Emporador marble overlay that extends out from the kitchen towards the family room. As well as creating extra space for general kitchen preparation tasks or for having a casual breakfast, the gorgeous bench is a great place to layout platters and entertain guests.

For dramatic effect, the feature bench has been designed to look like a solid piece of stone that is open underneath. Due to its weight, a mirrored support structure was utilized for practicality and to give the desired style. This feature also doubles as a small screen to the main kitchen sink with an elegant chrome goose neck sink mixer.

Directly behind, a double door fridge is bordered by storage cupboards and framed by Eveneer Charco chocolate timber veneer that is also used around the window and above the stove. Due to the height of the ceilings and the long lines of the joinery, the fridge was raised and surrounded by cabinets so as not to look out of proportion. Raising the fridge also meant

that the under surface could remain clean. Frosted glass panels have been used around the top half of the fridge for a light approach to practical storage with natural white painted drawers on each side below.

The original brick oven area has become the home of the new stove. This cooking space is a comfortable distance away from the preparation bench and washing area, ensuring ease of use for a couple of people simultaneously. The cooking zone also has its own rinse sink and additional bench space so that when cooking, water can be used or additional preparation can be performed near the cooking surface. A paint backed float glass wraps around this corner to act as a splash back.

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Photography: Adam McGrath - Hcreations Photography

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Exhibitionist

A bright and boldly open ensuite is designed for those who are not reserved.

Looking out over Canberra's Wentworth Ave, this uniquely designed master suite is completely open. It is a gorgeous ensuite and really, why would you want to hide this glorious room away?

Opposing the rather widely accepted tradition of defining an ensuite by a door, Sonja Archer of Archertec Interiors chose instead to just subtly define the space by a slightly dropped ceiling and an equally raised floor. The separation of the rich chocolate carpet and the bathroom tile is further accentuated by LED strip lighting that runs just below the slight step. This gives the illusion that the heavenly ensuite is floating in the space.

A perfect balance is struck between the two rooms' continuity and their definition. Running through both is a continuous wall of white, floor to ceiling cupboards that provide plenty of storage space and a clean crisp feature. Equally smooth white tiles cover the floor and reflect the row of down lights above. This continues from the bedroom, through the bathroom and into the reflection of the vanity mirror.

The vanity is identified by an impressive slab of marble streaked with slices of black creating a strong and artistic contrast to the almost all white surrounding elements. Two small drawers for those fiddly bathroom items flank the twin vanity that is backed by a huge frameless mirror.

Sitting atop the glossy tiles is a generous free-standing, bright white bath tub supplied by an independent goose neck tap. From here one can relax in luxury and enjoy the lovely view through the bedroom window. Behind the bath, a shower cubicle enjoys a greater degree of privacy, encased in opaque glass.

There is a definite sensual quality to this bathroom and its open and unashamed nature is a testament to the adventurous design skills of Archertec Interiors.

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Photography: Adam McGrath Hcreations Photography

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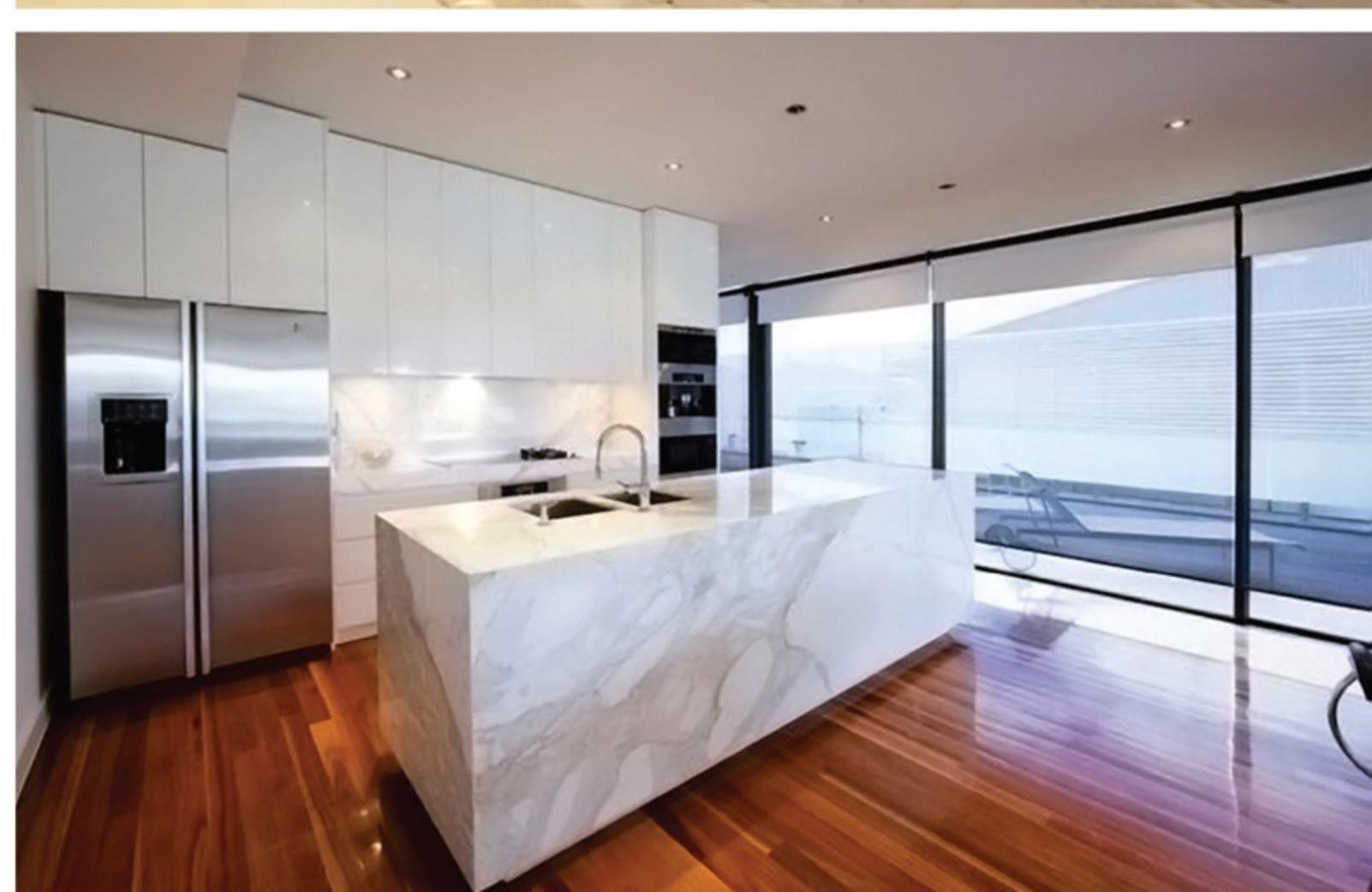
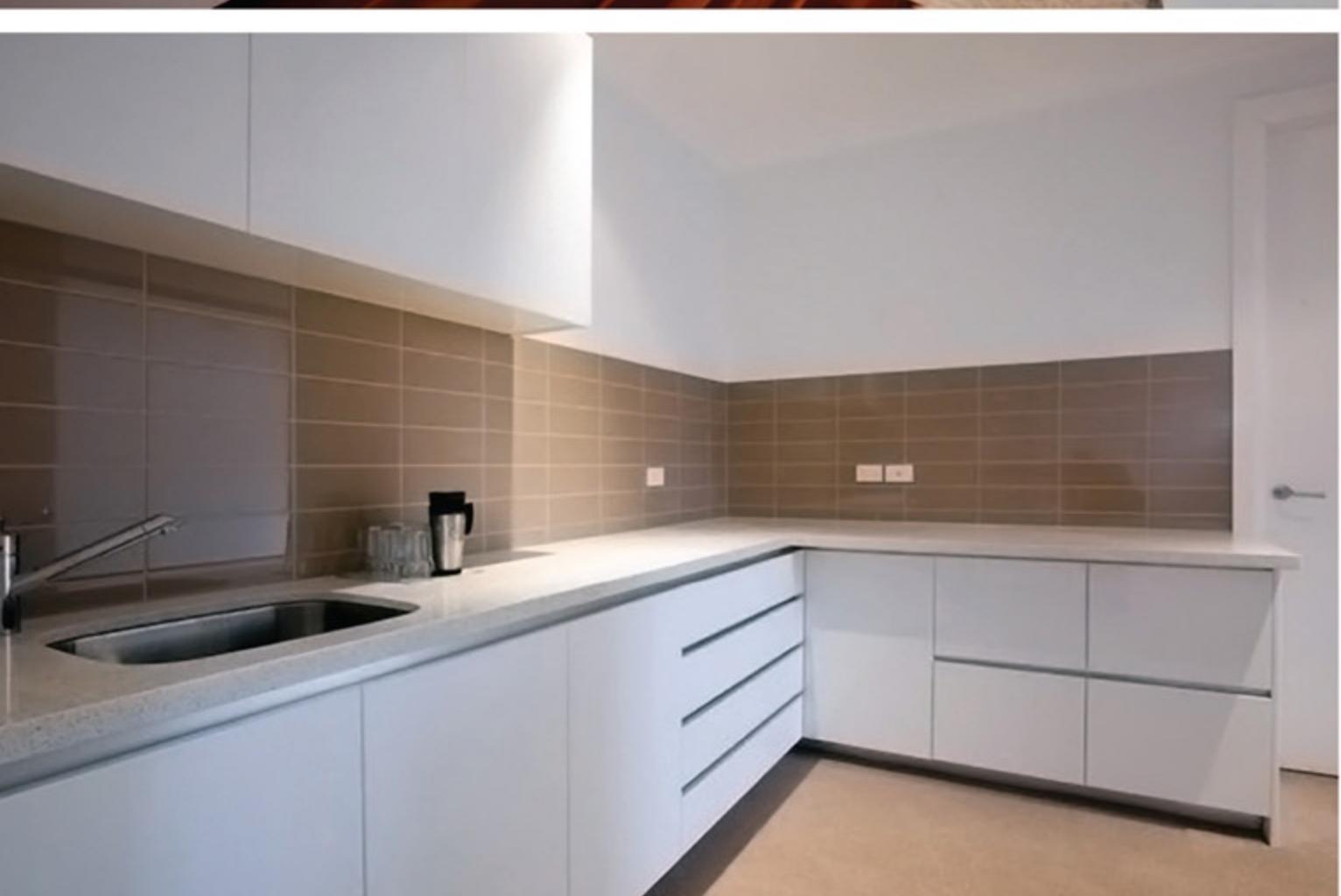
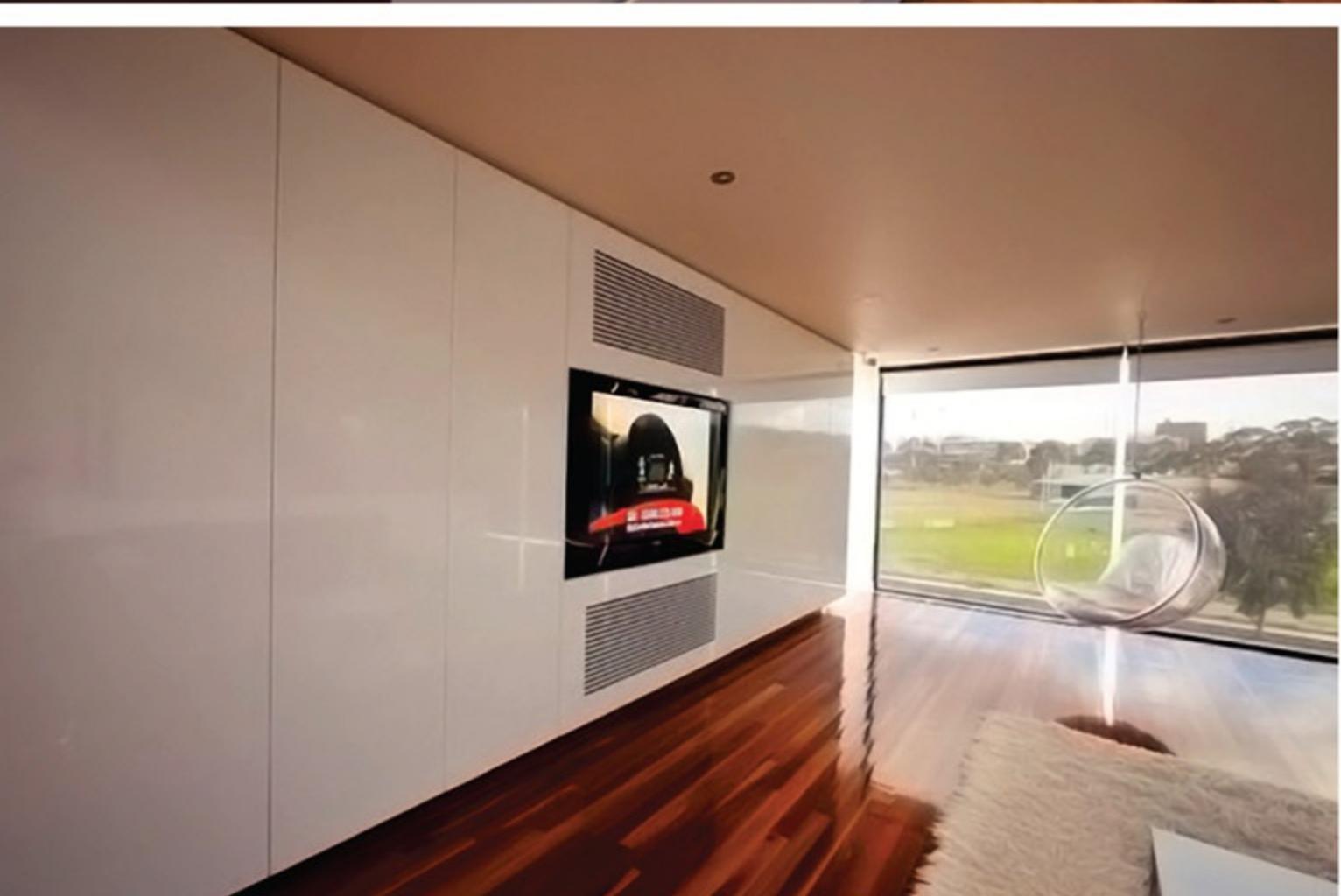




Architectural Edge

Located adjacent to a wall of glass overlooking the large outdoor deck, this exquisite kitchen is the epitome of class and minimalistic grandeur. Set on dark, polished timber flooring, Kolin Cabinets chose white as a dominant palette to showcase a masterful design, allowing every aspect of the kitchen to 'pop' against the darker tones in the wood.





It's hard not to notice the utter brilliance of the central granite island bench. Seemingly solid right the way through, it grounds the design, offering the opulence and functionality of such a renowned and hardy material. Dual sunken basins are set to one side of the bench, with quality steel taps and retractable spout. This leaves the rest of the expansive countertop to be used for preparatory measure or to serve on.

Imbedded in the wall to the rear of the kitchen is an all in one cooking station including a microwave and dual-oven. In addition to this, an adjacent cook top sits on another slab of granite, above a separate under bench oven. With even more space to work on, down lights installed under the overhead cabinetry are an added bonus.

Large, white, glossy cabinets fill the rest of the space, adding plenty of storage space for pots and pans, as well as groceries and other food, while

a large stainless steel fridge complements the other kitchen appliances. More than anything, this kitchen displays clean, sharp lines and an appreciation for quality materials and design. Effortless in style, it exudes clarity and class in an environment where making food would be a breeze.

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Glossy Suite

In an inspiring kitchen design by Kolim Cabinets, a crisp clean palette of white is paired with curious forms that come together in a unique and practical kitchen.





A waterfall bench top graces the island to the centre of the main kitchen, its flecked white and grey effect providing continuity throughout all counter surfaces in the room.

Cabinets are completely handless and shine brightly in glossy white 2pac, stretching from an enormous fridge recess, right around into a concealed butler's pantry. The abstract forms that arch over the cooking surface are either fronted by slightly opaque glass or not fronted at all, allowing for display items to transform the kitchen into the truly personal space that it is.

Sliding doors above the set down bench next to the fridge cleanly store small, messy appliances, their larger counterparts fully integrated into the surrounding kitchen joinery. Continuing around the room with the joinery is a taupe-coloured glass splash back that gives the room depth against white. Warmth is bounced off this coloured splash back behind the cook top by four down lights that shine from the overhead cabinetry. Further lighting comes from three dainty pendant lights above the island bench and during the day, from the large window that backs the sink.

A sliding door quietly hides a butler's pantry, though the accessory space is more suitably described as another kitchen rather than just a place for storing provisions. The extra room has a second gas hob stove and sink, and of course, lots of storage.

As well as being bordered by the island bench, the expansive kitchen is defined above by a corniced ceiling, separated from that of the adjacent living area by a bulk head. Continuity comes from the white walls and rich timber floorboards that float over the entire space.

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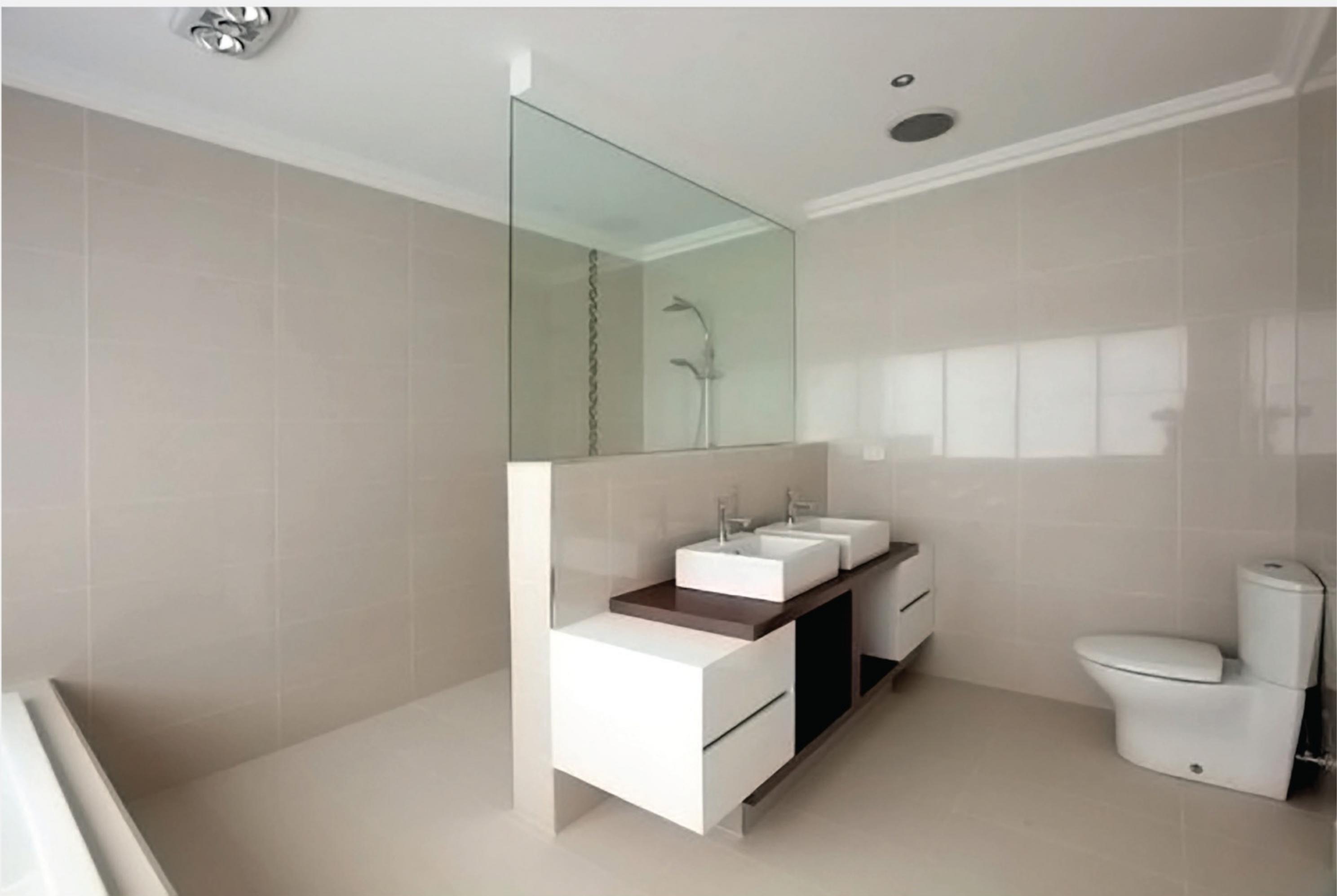
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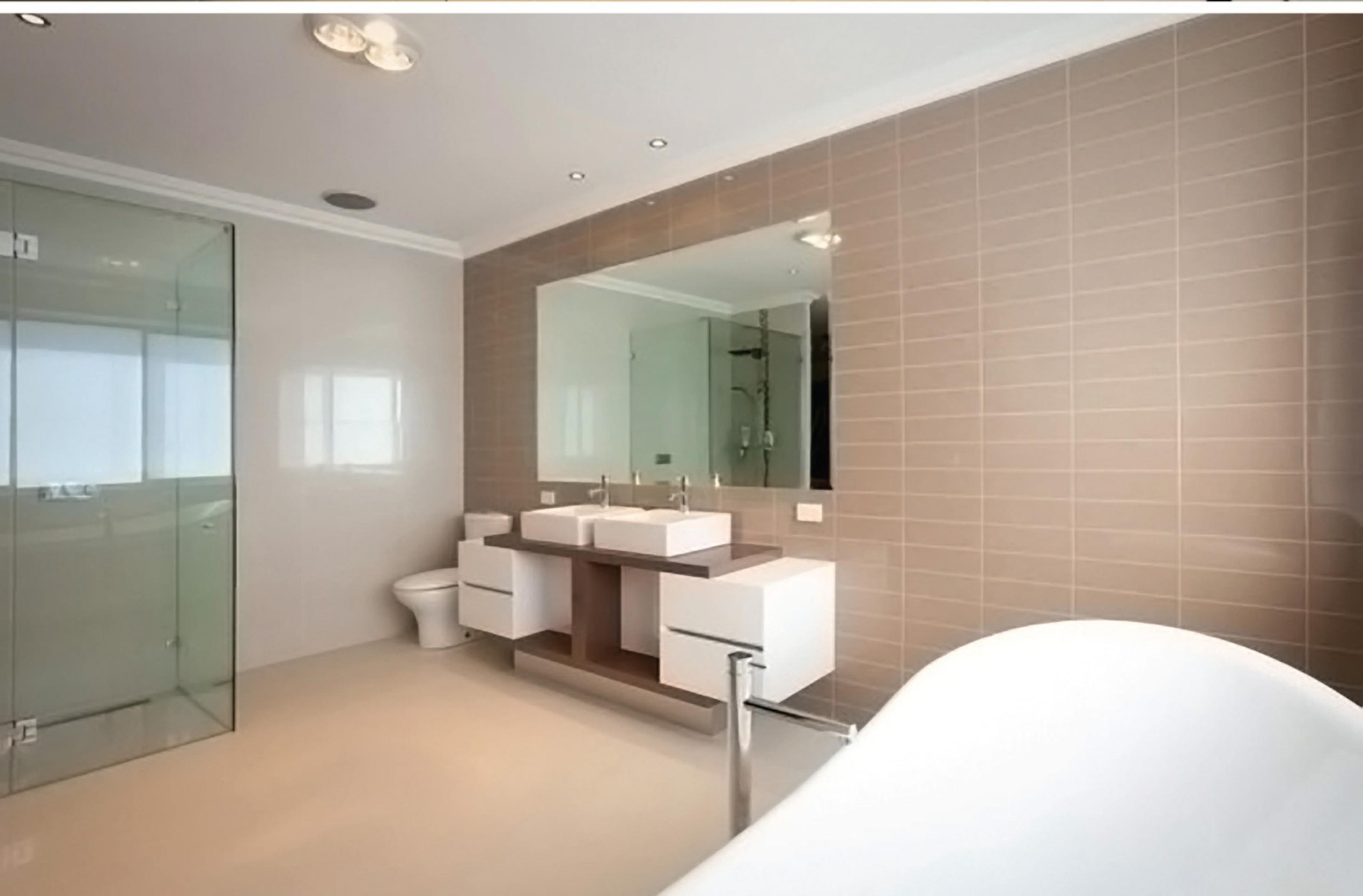




Luxury Bathroom

Neutral tones fuse shiny and geometric forms to create a bathroom of luxury.





A geometrically balanced vanity makes for a neat and attractive place to keep the owners looking neat and attractive! Chocolate C-shaped shelving ever so gently clasps mirrored white drawer units. Above, the twin, cubic white sinks echo the vanity features below, their double nature avoiding any disputes over the tap.

A frameless glass mirror sits perfectly in line with the vanity it graces, within a wall of glossy taupe tiles that give the room a warmth that is often lacking in modern design. The feature wall is a lighter reflection of the 2pac used for the vanity and a darker interpretation of the tiling used throughout the rest of the space.

Floating in the corner of the space is an elegant glass box that encloses the shower. Its transparent, geometric form keeps the room open and visually flowing while providing the necessary screening for the shower.

Across the sandy-coloured flooring tiles lays a shiny white tub, brightened blissfully by the huge window above. An ever so slight raise to one end adds to the comfort. It is not often that one finds time in their busy day to just lay back and relax in a warm bath. Or perhaps it is the fear of indulgence? Fighting temptation to do so would be most difficult in this bathroom though, with all the elements in-line for the perfect relaxation experience.

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A large, rectangular wooden dining table with a dark wood pedestal base, surrounded by ten matching wooden chairs with light-colored upholstered seats. The table is positioned in the center of the room, facing a large window.

Striking Contrasts

This stylish and user friendly kitchen, created by Tina Lindner, is a real entertainer's paradise.





Behind the heritage façade of this Williamstown home, lays a spacious and contemporary interior, designed with all the best intentions for satisfying the modern desire for a seamless lifestyle.

The L-shaped layout of the living areas places the stylish, modern kitchen at the centre point.

Clean and simple, bright white cabinetry makes a clean base for the most stunning feature element, a white and grey marble island bench. This visual treat extends over the breakfast bar towards the floor and is lit from below by a series of lights integrated into the ground. Above, a low hanging, linear light fixture spreads luminosity over the reflective surface of the bench, providing not only an attractive element to the kitchen but also a practical one.

Black and stainless steel bar stools stand to attention, creating a stark contrast to both the white cabinets and patterned bench. Together the elements of the island form a kitchen that appears more like a piece of furniture, perfect for playing host to pre-dinner drinks.

Stainless steel appliances are integrated for easy access, with remaining small appliances available for use in the butler's pantry that is tucked neatly out of site behind the luxurious kitchen.

A striking accent to this area is the adjacent internal courtyard where lush green bamboo surrounds a tall bamboo feature painted bright red and placed in front of a green free standing feature wall. Surrounded by floor to ceiling windows, the courtyard becomes a piece of art to the kitchen and neighbouring dinner area.

Sunday morning's reading of the paper with a cuppa is made extra enjoyable for the owners of this newly renovated house, with the chic kitchen becoming a favorite space to relax in.

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Photography: UA Creative Photography

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Penthouse Perfection

When this luxury penthouse underwent a lavish renovation, the kitchen was highlighted as a key element of the new space.





Kitchen TRENDS brought their expertise in kitchen design together with the owner's appreciation of quality to create an architecturally designed space that reflects the chic new interior of this stunning Broadbeach apartment.

From the living areas, it is the interesting Quartz stone breakfast bar that draws one's eye towards the kitchen. The varying heights of mitred gables – which are a combination of jet black CaesarStone and crystal salt Essa Stone – set the tone for the high quality materials used throughout the space.

The 2pac satin finish to the cupboard doors and drawer faces gives the kitchen a glossy personality. The smooth aesthetic is perpetuated by handleless storage, with the exception of a larger pantry and doors that camouflage the fridge and freezer. By hiding these appliances, the room enjoys a greater spread of white surfaces, making the space feel less like a utility area. The remaining appliances share similarly clean and ultramodern lines that integrate effortlessly into the cabinetry.

Other high impact materials include brushed aluminium kickboards and a large, mirrored splash back. The mirror feature both gives the room a greater feeling of space and extends the ocean view to another dimension.

Above the stove, twin down lights illuminate the work area for increased functionality. Overhead, strategic lighting fills the kitchen with a homely ambience, which is enhanced by the built-in shelves that allow the owners to display some special items. Underfoot, imported Italian tiles continue into the kitchen from the living areas.

As well as being functional for everyday use and casual living, the space also makes for a lavish backdrop for the more formal entertainment of family and friends. Fitted with the highest level of appointments, the new sleek and contemporary kitchen is a true reflection of both the owners discerning tastes and the luxury of its privileged location.

Photography Courtesy of Kitchen TRENDS

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Coastal Elegance

Gracing a most opulent space that stretches across the picturesque landscape of the Gold Coast canals is a stunning kitchen, created with all the best intentions for satisfying the owner's desire for a striking, contemporary room.

The beauty of this kitchen is found in the simplicity of the design. All cabinetry is satin finish two-pac, which conceals extensive storage and soft closing draws to add to the lovely reflective effect. A lack of handles to the cupboards and drawers gives the room a sense of being at one with the adjacent living area, making it not so obviously a kitchen. This particular design idea was generated by the client's desire for the interior spaces to be clean and simple, allowing the external vistas to take pride of place.

Both from Delonghi, a sleek stainless steel microwave continues the modern look of the kitchen, as does the luxurious built-in espresso machine. Beside these two unimposing appliances sits a fully integrated refrigerator that is completely disguised behind two full height doors.

The enormous island bench is topped with silky CaesarStone, whose bright and glossy surface is heightened further by three pendant lights hanging in succession above. Common to many new kitchens are the flexible and retractable spray sink mixers, seen hung here over a generous sink.

Behind lies a double oven and a hefty gas cook top, backed by a wall of porcelain tiles in a slightly darker hue to their underfoot counterparts.

A suspended cabinet to this feature hovers just away from the wall, creating a slight crevasse allowing bright light to shine out.

To the end of the kitchen bench, a semi-concealed doorway leads through to a big butler's pantry. This accessory room not only provides ample place to house groceries but also means that smaller, messier appliances can be kept hidden from sight in the main living area.

With bi-folding doors opening the entire space up to a long balcony that takes the house to the water, the kitchen makes for an excellent entertaining hub within the large living area.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography courtesy of Lloyd Kavic

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Natural Elements

A contemporary kitchen with some interestingly different features forms the hub of this family home.

The first thing to grab your attention is the island bench, where a stack-stone feature wall envelops its façade. On top, the white stone surface is the perfect reflector of the three pendant lights that hang in symmetry above. What is unique about the island is its shape; being almost square affords the kitchen with extra work room and allows for the accommodation of plenty of storage and shelving where brightly coloured cookbooks can be lovingly displayed.

Running in an L-shape behind the island is sleek white joinery incorporating a sink, cook top, range hood and integrated dishwasher. A large, double-door fridge completes the suite of high-end appliances. Handleless drawers extend even into the corners for absolute maximization of storage space below the counters, which are backed by a sandy coloured glass splash back. Running along the base of the cabinets and acting as a connection between the light joinery surfaces and the rich timber floors are stainless steel kick boards. A discrete door opens to a walk-in pantry.

Behind the bench tops are neat windows, one with louvers to allow the light tropical breezes in and the warm air out. Lush green palms are framed by the windows, acting to bring the natural surrounds in.

Adjacent to the kitchen is a weathered Jarrah outdoor dining table that has been brought inside. Its light, natural tones and textures are the perfect compliment to the kitchen's stone island feature.

Editorial: Jade de Souza
Photography courtesy of Kitchen TRENDS

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A Rainforest Escape

A luxurious home in northern Queensland is fitted to five-star perfection, from the outdoor teppanyaki barbecue to the fresh and open kitchen.





This inspiring tropical home boasts a cool and calming ambience, accentuated by the indoor and outdoor kitchens designed by Analisa Hegyesi of AH Design Concepts. Taking a Japanese/Asian inspired direction, the room's lightness is created by an innovative and practical layout that complements the tropical climate.

Be you inside or out, extensive openness is achieved with windows, bi-folds and louvers – you never feel like you are indoors. There is a strong focus on connecting the interior spaces with the surrounding lush vegetation and cool water.

Imported Italian marble coats the floors with a natural look. This surface gives a cool, silky feel underfoot, a luxurious feature for a home whose environment entails one being bare foot a great deal of the time. Together, the reflective stone floors and shiny fittings of the kitchen ensure that the room can be used during the day under purely natural light.

Shaded below a rooftop garden is a lavishly appointed teppanyaki bar area, with circular seating taking in the calming, landscaped ponds that flow through the house. Cascading coral plant vines fall from above over this five star version of the Aussie barbecue. The sleek and subtle palette of white and grey allow the landscape to take centre stage, highlighted from every angle. It is no wonder that this design received the highest praise at the 2010 HIA Awards, earning the title of Best Outdoor Kitchen.

Adjacent to the teppanyaki bar space is its indoor counterpart, fitted with similarly sleek bench tops and handleless cabinetry that is flooded with natural light from a linear window behind the workspace. An alfresco setting beside this area floats over the pool that is brought right into the kitchen through completely open walls.

There is a real continuity of themes through these areas which pop with cool bright blues and hot tropical orange accents – colours derived from the navy and apricot hues in the marble floor tile that articulate the natural landscape's feature. Cleverly, cushions topping stylish and contemporary seating are wetsuit material, practical for wet bums straight out of the pool!

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Photography: Open2View

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Delightfully Exposed

As though you are living in the rainforest and bathing in nature with complete seclusion, these remarkable bathrooms in this impressive north Queensland home are a showcase of what is possible with imaginative design and a commitment to accentuating the tropical lifestyle.





The intended light ambience of the home needed to be enjoyed no matter where one was, which meant that no room was spared from a close relationship with the surrounding landscape – including the bathrooms. Completed to absolute perfection by Analisa Hegyesi of AH Design Concepts, the resultant stunning interiors throughout this delightfully open and breezy home make life more than comfortable for its lucky inhabitants.

Upstairs, two lavish ensuites are separated by a unique, tropical roof-top garden which is brought inside through complete walls of bi-folding doors. The clever inclusion of the garden and wide open walls perpetuates the intention of the entire design – that one should never feel like they are indoors. While the garden provides a cool breezeway between the two rooms, vegetation and rock features ensure absolute privacy.

Each ensuite features double showers and basins, backed by shimmering tiles that glisten with the myriad of pearl hues one would find inside a seashell. An absence of shower screens or walls make bathers feel as though they are literally washing outside. The experience is made particularly sensual with mood lighting emitted from recessed shower shelves.

The wall-to-wall bi-folds that bring the garden in are but one of AH Design's eco-friendly ideas to address sustainability, with the plants shading the bathrooms and cool breezes invited in to flow through the

warmer upstairs areas and alleviate the use of air-conditioning. Also, the roof top garden provides shelter to a downstairs terrace, throwing coral plant vines over the edge for a unique ambience below.

Downstairs bathrooms show a similar aesthetic with silky grey Italian marble floors, light cabinetry and glistening, cool-coloured shower walls brought to life with bright, hot-coloured accents that reflect and compliment the surrounding landscape. The simple colour palette expressed in towels and cut flowers is an articulation of the landscape's orange foliage and bright blue water. Hence here again, one feels connected with the lush vegetation and calming waters that run through the house, as glass louvres open up both sides of the room. The reflective nature of the finishes used reduces the need for artificial lighting, furthering the association with what is natural and beautiful.

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Kitchen Innovation

A one of a kind kitchen with a few hidden surprises forms an artistic hub in three urban townhouses.





North Fitzroy in Melbourne is synonymous with a trendy, creative culture and it is the distinctive aesthetic of those that dwell there that is reflected in the fit-out of these stylish town houses.

We Make Cabinets were enlisted by interior designer Michelle Skinner to implement the organic aesthetic that could only be provided by George Fethers sandblasted veneer. The crafting skills of We Make Cabinets were utilized to the utmost degree to achieve the kind of precision necessary for this element to really work. Since they were among the first to use the 'Lignapal' range of veneers from Fethers – not commonly used in kitchens – they had to discover and work with the material's limitations during its installation. While remaining sedate, the beautiful product has a striking elegance that demands attention.

Spread across the main utility wall of the area, cabinets and drawers are accessed by long linear slits in the wood, which allowed the façade to remain relatively uninterrupted.

The island bench – topped with a hefty slab of marble – furthers the natural feel of the space. Below, built in shelving makes room for the display of personal items. Similar detail is applied throughout the kitchen. If this was a normal design, it would have been timber that would be used to accent a white base. In this case however – under a design philosophy that reflected

the alternative nature of the location – there are small sections of white below the island, above the stove and behind shelves, used to break-up the effect of the timber.

Opposing the kitchen is a timber staircase, protected by a unique woven banister. A sliding door opens the kitchen to an internal courtyard, planted with a lone Maple. Together these elements steer the space towards the Japanese sensibility that underlies each aspect.

At the end of the stairs, a unit of what appears to be merely cabinetry houses a European laundry and a powder room lined with penny round tiles. Rather than feel like an obstruction, the amenities wall forms an integrated part of the space whilst retaining functionality. Such unique utilization of a limited space is testament to both the design skills of Michelle Skinner and the handy work of We Make Cabinets.

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Photography: Jon Moxey

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Inspiring minimal

It's amazing how many things come to mind at the first glance of such a minimal, yet beautifully designed room such as this. With its gallery-like feel, and strong linear nature, one can't help but feel 'expensive' in this space!





Resembling a wellness retreat on a classy private island, this bathroom is actually part of a recently renovated ten year old, double story, brick veneer home in the suburbs. Bringing the bathroom up to this standard has proved that what's old really can be made new, in undefinable style and class!

With simple lines and a muted palette, this understated and spacious room provides its guests with a feeling of enrichment and vibrancy on entry. A flood of natural light is allowed to delicately filter through the large frosted glass wall, which covers one entire side of the room, creating a soft shadow of the objects it hides outside. The wall adds an element of soft movement to the room, balancing the low profile, minimalist approach of the bathroom.

With three additional bathrooms in the house, this particular room need not feature such things. Focusing on the more important things, this room exists purely to service a functional need with boldness and class. A gorgeous 2.1 metre long double wash plane by Omvivo in White CaesarStone takes its cue from the 2.1 metre long mirror which sits above and stuns all who glance at it. With hidden plumbing, it adds to the minimalistic theme of the room and completes a stunning design.

Additional aspects of the room give it that extra bit of appeal, with space for decoration to complement the decor of the room.

It's almost hard to believe that this was once a small, cramped and dark bathroom. With such a stunning display as this, less really is more!

Editorial: Corey Thomas

Photography: Stephen Nicholls

Design & Decorate WA

Designer/Builder: David Ellwood MDIA AFAIM CBD Au

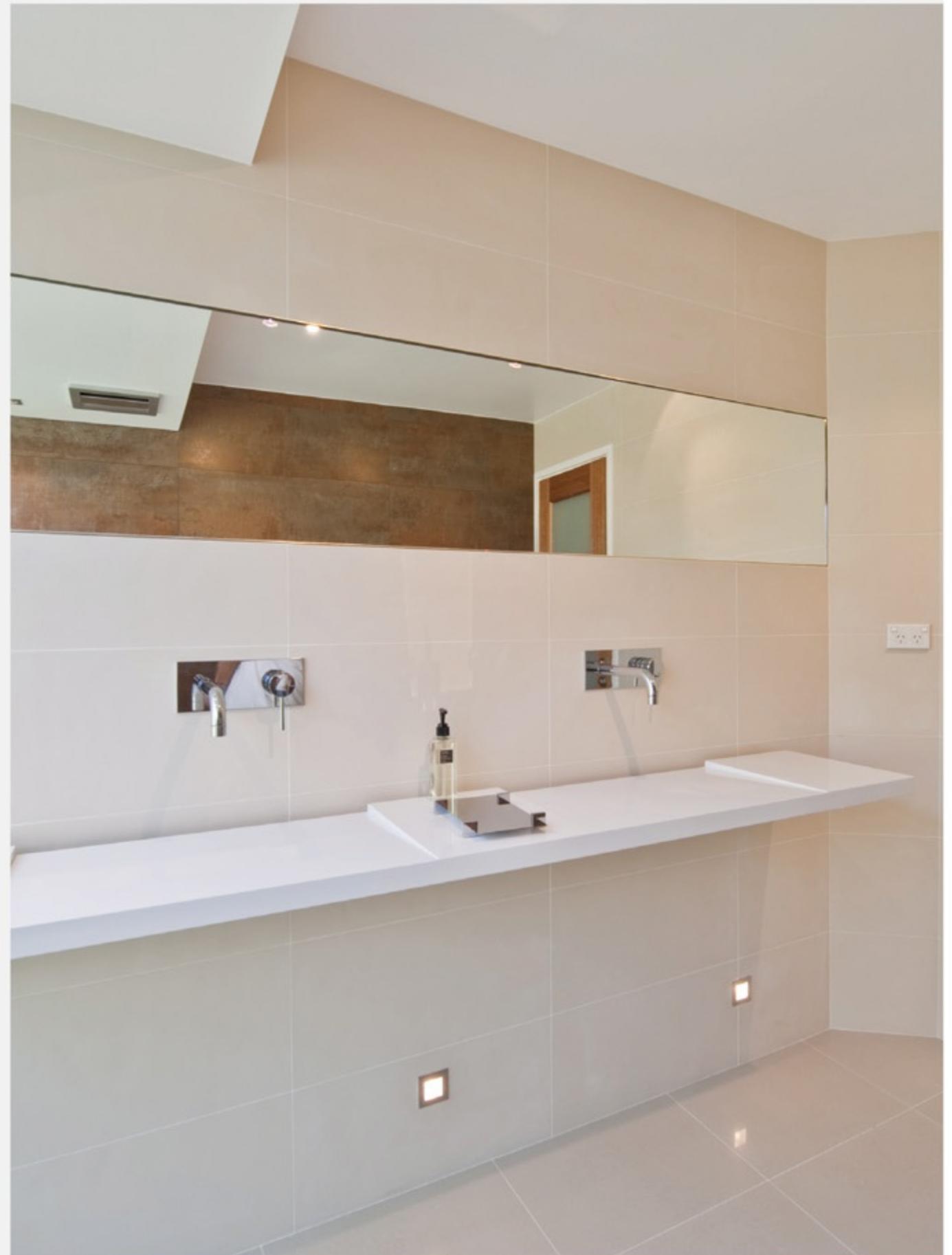
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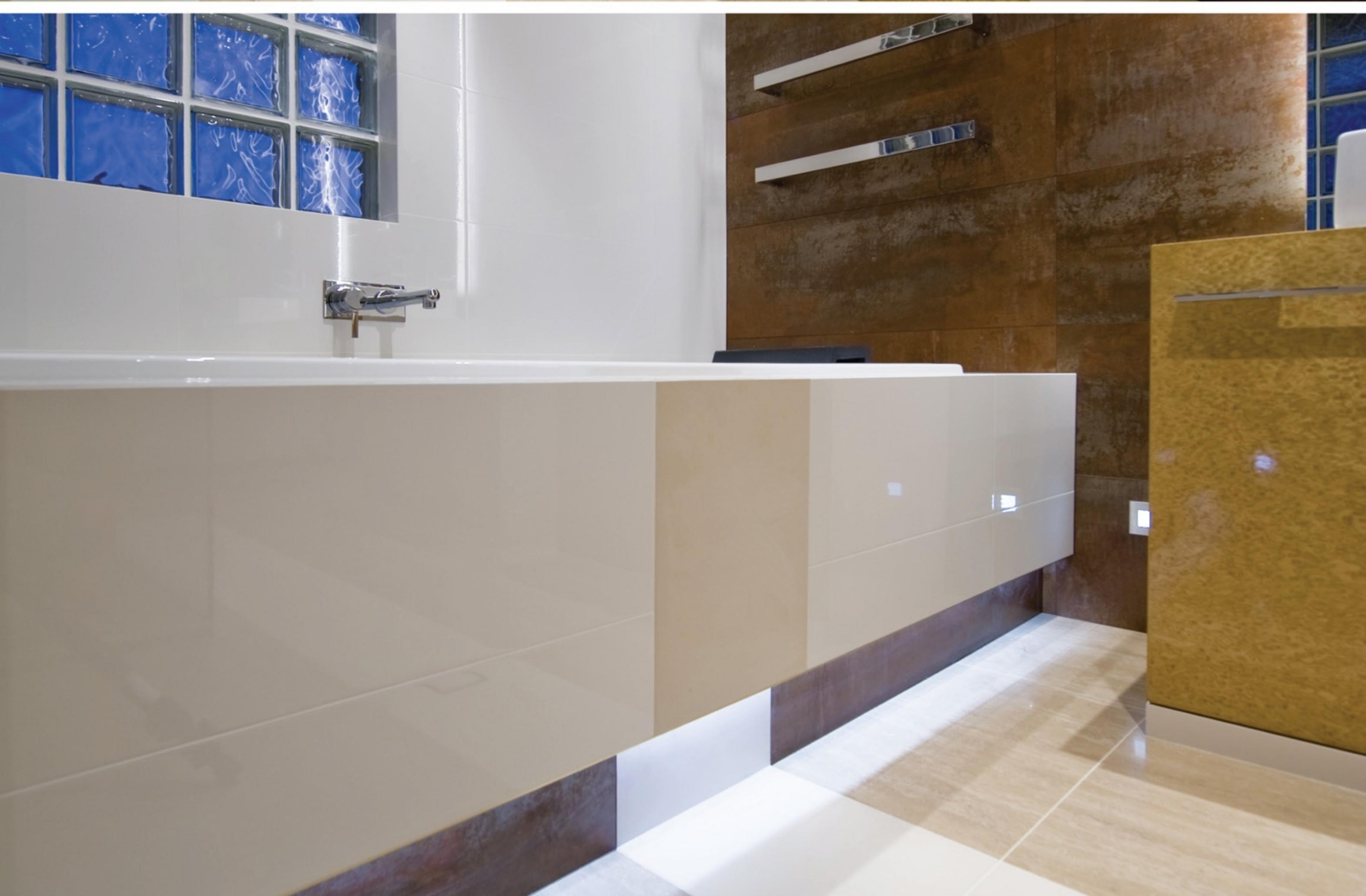




Contemporary Lines

In a master ensuite built for two, only class will do! The quality of living is raised in this gorgeously appointed bathroom, featuring a stunningly large frameless shower and double vanity.





Modelled on a contemporary, linear design, this master ensuite exudes luxury and class. With contrasting colours that complement the overall design palette and high quality fixtures, David Ellwood of Design & Decorate WA has once again outdone himself.

Upon entering the lavish ensuite, the most prominent element of the space is the identical double vanity. Complete with recessed mirror and accent lighting, this makes for the perfect grooming place. Chunky rectangular basins are visually solid, grounding the design and providing a balance between the finer elements such as the connecting glass shelf between the two vanities.

Cream countertops contrast greatly with the patterned cabinetry, and tie in wonderfully with the row of tiling that leads the eye down the length of the room, giving the illusion of increased depth.

The most prominent feature however, is the large double glass block windows that grace the room with light. In addition to the obvious benefits, the block style windows provide total privacy, while letting in copious amounts of light. As a result, the room is lit adequately with natural light, minimising the use of energy. Another attractive element of this bathroom is the large frameless shower with frameless glass door. Not only does this

allow one to feel as though they have more space, but it also opens up the room, freeing it from obstruction from the front to the back.

Come nightfall, this beautiful bathroom comes alive and shares with its occupants a true delight. Hidden fluorescent lighting and LED accents provide a soft glow for when full light is unnecessary. This allows occupants to enjoy a relaxing bath or a romantic shower without a flood of light from the many down lights.

With smaller finishing touches such as the stainless steel switches, power outlets and courtesy lighting, the design is brought into harmony, offering sleek styled living in a chic environment.

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Photography: Stephen Nicholls

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Simply Elegant

With elegance and grace, this beautifully presented kitchen affords a structural and visual flow that resounds throughout the home





Situated within a home comprising of arches, domes and circular staircases, this generous kitchen evokes a richness in design that stands boldly with class.

Drawing on cues from around the home, this high quality kitchen continues a visual flow that resonates fluidity in design and flair. Defying the rectilinear form so dominant in the market today, this showstopper kitchen, constructed by Bruce Anderson of Kitchen and Cabinet Creations, reintroduces us to a fresh approach to solid and attractive kitchen styling. The focus of the area is the beautifully crafted curved island bench. Impressively, the doors and panels of the bench are also curved, so as not to detract from the organically oriented design. Maintaining a visual flow from room to room, the kitchen acts as a communal centre point of the house to all guests, from which the design emanates.

Black Pewter granite is used extensively in the kitchen, including the splashbacks. It is granite's robust usability and opulent finish that make it the perfect material to use throughout the kitchen. The bull nosed granite feature strip across the top half of the island bench highlights the wonderful contrast in colour, while the parallel kick board of the same granite leads the eye right across the kitchen, to its complementary

aspects such as the added bull nosed granite capping that features atop the higher cabinets of the kitchen close to the ceiling.

Special custom-fit LED lights have been embedded into the underside of the island bench-top at the top to further extend the idea of opulence and create a wonderful effect in low light situations.

Doors have been finished in a gold metallic luminescent, high gloss finish, and custom made to the required radius. Finishing the design in a thoughtful manner, a bronze laminate kickboard completes the kitchen with a functional choice of material which requires little maintenance.

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Photographer: Ann Anderson

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Bringing the Outside In

This sculptural extension forms an inside/outside kitchen that makes entertaining a breeze.





Once external sandstone walls – so typical of traditional South Australian architecture – become features to the interior of this kitchen. Together with expansive bi-fold windows that stretch around 90 degrees of the space, the kitchen feels as though it could be considered as much a part of the exterior as the interior. The integrated barbecue grill along with the ability to serve drinks and food directly to those outside furthers the blurring of the kitchen boundary.

The designated cooking areas feature white cabinetry that frames so beautifully the lush garden scenery provided by large windows. The brightness of these benches is contrasted starkly with floor to ceiling black cupboards and a bar that protrudes into the space. Illuminated from above to dramatic effect via spot and pendent lights, this sculptural form with varying bench levels divides the kitchen from the bar, from where an existing cellar sits adjacent. Although the kitchen is open to the living space, the areas are visually divided by this element. This creates a more intimate feel to the large space, and allows different groups to socialize separately at one time in a room where the natural sandstone and brick quoin create an authentic bar atmosphere in the evenings.

Slate grounds the floor adjacent to floorboards and along with a large slab of granite, these natural elements compliment the sandstone walls. The joinery feels more like furniture, with clean lines maintained through integrated appliances and the incorporation of shelving for small appliances behind cupboard doors.

A fun and practical aspect of the kitchen is the dog door, integrated into the cabinetry. The owner's two pampered pooches can easily be hydrated via a small tap, specifically to fill their water bowl. A SENSOR light illuminates the dogs as they enter for ease of their comings and goings during the evening.

Eliza Rudkin of Lane Walker Rudkin, is pleased with how the new entertaining kitchen has transformed the lives of its owners. Where once they would venture out for dinner and coffees, they now bring their friends to their home, where they enjoy effortless entertaining in their state-of-the-art kitchen.

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Minimalist Marble

Striking travertine tiling encases two stunning bathrooms, each with unique luxury features.





When the 1904 sandstone home underwent an extensive renovation, Lane Walker Rudkin saw the opportunity to transform both the main bathroom and ensuite into beautiful, functional spaces for the owners to enjoy rather than just merely utilise.

The warmth and sophistication of the rooms can be attributed to the extensive use of travertine. The canvas laid by these patterned tiles forms a backdrop for the sculptural basins and baths which make a striking addition to each space. This restrained material palette affords the rooms with a feeling of spaciousness, with storage hidden behind cleverly designed mirrors and panels for the maintenance of clean lines. To further the feeling of openness, the bench top in the ensuite stretches the entire length of the room. Floor to ceiling mirrors adjacent to a skylight also give a feeling of space and light, meaning that there is no need for artificial lighting during the day.

Walk-in showers are glamorous additions to these spaces, tucked seamlessly behind large glass walls that form the shower screen. Niches cut into the walls are perfect for neatly stashing shampoos and soap.

Draining has been carefully aligned to work perfectly with the openness of these showers. The ideal place for a warm bubble bath, the tub forms a relaxing oasis, perched upon the textural floorscape.

Solar collectors on the roof are used to heat the bathroom floors through the slab, giving the spaces coziness during winter, despite the use of stone. Additional luxury items such as heated towel racks and a fixed magnifying vanity mirror in the ensuite finishes these stunning bathrooms off in an elegant fashion.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography: Mark Green

Lane Walker Rudkin

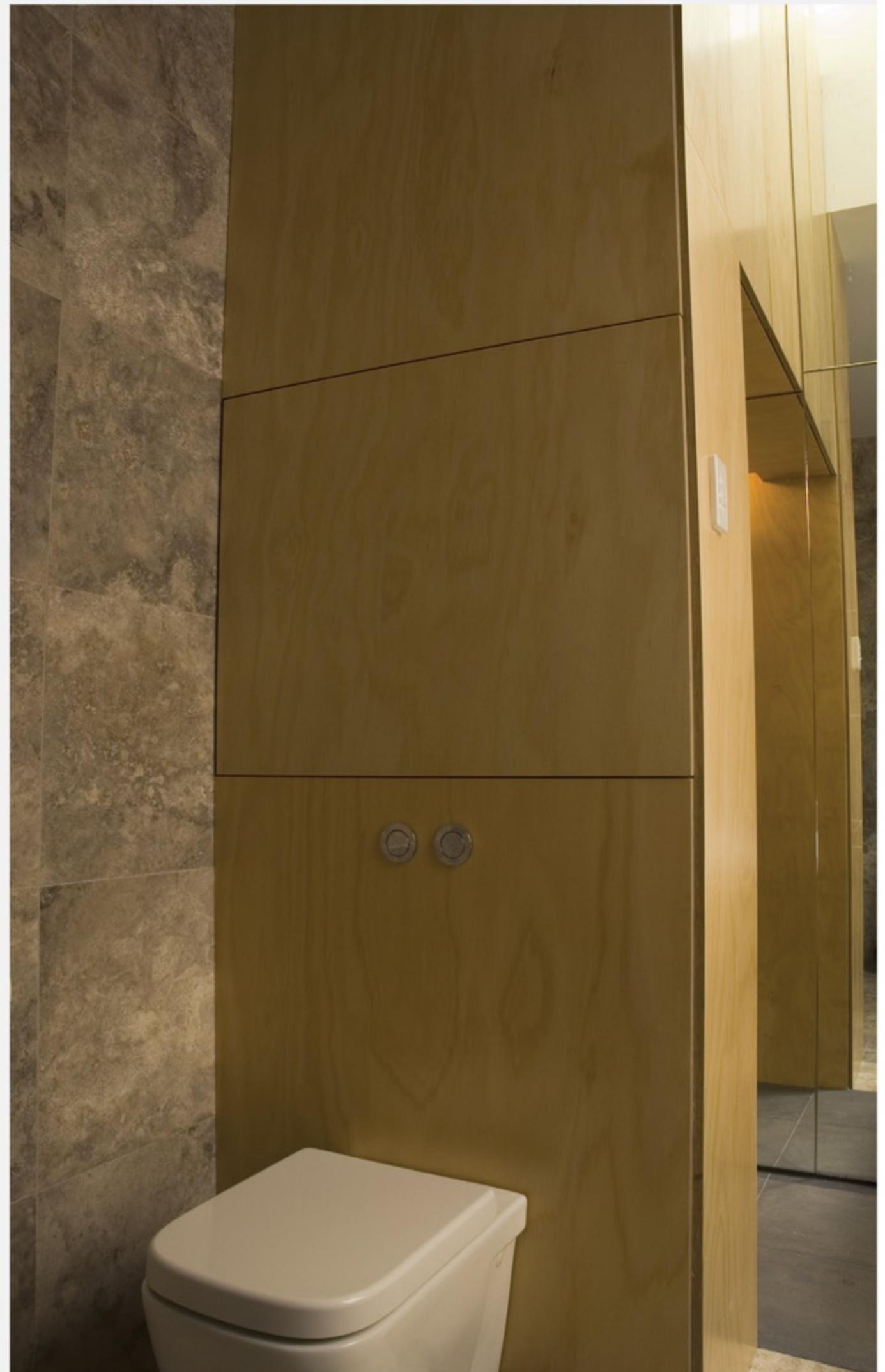
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Functional Design

Clever cabinetry highlighted by feature walls and stunning bench tops make up a splendid kitchen.





Apollo Kitchens ensured that this small space kitchen incorporated all the coveted features of a big one, in a neat little package that is both functional and good-looking.

Though the kitchen area was rather limited, it did not impede the inclusion of an island bench. As well as squaring off the space, the bench provides a place for casual dining and a unit for additional storage. In fact, with the exception of the appliances, every last inch of the area is utilized in some way or another for built in cabinetry.

Beveled edge drawer and door panels front spaces big and small, angling even to include the area under the adjacent staircase. While physically the smallest element of the design, slender, linear Hettich handles used on the drawers and cupboards are what set the contemporary tone of the kitchen. To the ends of the cupboards, roller shutter doors conceal the kitchen appliances, keeping the counters clean and clutter free.

The white surfaces and stainless steel Kleenmaid appliances are offset by 'Black Rocks' CaesarStone bench tops, which continue their journey over the edge of the workspaces and down to the matte white ceramic tiled floor

edged by brushed aluminium kickboards. An induction cook top is almost invisible within the motley patterned CaesarStone. Overhead, an angular range hood is mirrored in the shape and finish of twin pendant lights that shine down on the island.

One feature cupboard is fronted by frosted glass panels that are framed by brushed aluminium. The frosted glass emits almost a pale blue shade, which is mirrored in the glossy glass splash backs behind the sink. Behind the stove, the pale blue glass encompasses the entire wall creating an interesting feature.

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Classically Elegant

Fine appointments and classic styling bring a homely aesthetic to this family kitchen.





In a time where kitchens are fitted out in absolute minimalist style with geometric counter tops and handleless cabinetry, it is refreshing to see that traditional styling can still provide its own unique interpretation of the 'modern' kitchen.

Here, a classic heritage country kitchen comes to life in suburban New South Wales. From the ornate tapware to the gorgeous Italian ILVE stove, the room is elegantly appointed to the finest degree.

The space is one that brings a family together. Be it Sunday night roasts, Christmas lunch or baking cupcakes with the kids, this beautiful kitchen is open and spacious, providing everything a culinary enthusiast could hope for.

A consistent off-white colour scheme to the cabinetry, walls and tiles makes a cosy contrast to the richly stained timber flooring. The cupboard doors, drawers and the island bench feature decorative panels, neatly outlining each element. Behind the façade are German engineered Hettich drawer and runner systems for ease of use. Finished with pretty Hettich handles, the extensive cabinetry makes a timeless statement.

The classically designed stove, topped with gas hobs and grill, integrates perfectly with the overall look of the room. Overhead, a range hood is incorporated into an ornate canopy, custom made to seamlessly link the cupboards on either side. The dishwasher is also made fully integrated with the decorative panel.

'Raw Silk' CaesarStone bench tops with Bull Nose edging tops the workspaces with a lovely, creamy fabric that reflects the light from above shed by a skylight. The room is finished with a dainty cornice that frames what is a true testament to the taste and skill of Apollo Kitchens.

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Vibrant Response

A combination of modern day thinking and traditional design culminates in an attractive and environmentally conscious response to the everyday kitchen. Sustainability and visual appeal were clearly at the forefront of this design by Camilla Molders.





Creating a space that oozes character and offers a refreshingly 'homey' design to contrast the stark, linear focused projects that dominate the market, this cosy kitchen reflects the culture of a traditional home-cooked meal shared by the family.

With sustainability in mind, materials chosen were of the said nature and compiled in a complementary fashion. Shying away from the clinical side of things, white was blacklisted, with the designer opting for eco-friendly bamboo as the preferred material for cabinetry. In addition, reclaimed Ironbark was chosen to grace the countertops for its hardy and attractive composition.

Generous amounts of storage have been allowed for with the inclusion of a large pantry and several large format draws. Floating shelves are also utilised for their low profile appeal and useful function, while the decorative elements of the kitchen – including the ornamental light fixtures, coloured pots, canisters, vases and the timber stools – really bring the area to life. A full laundry has also been included in this kitchen, and is hidden behind large closed doors. Despite all of these features, the sizeable bi-fold window is the true selling point of this kitchen, opening out onto the luscious greenery of the yard beyond.

A vivid South American inspired colour palette of contrasting colours helps to balance the aesthetics of the kitchen, levelling the visual appeal of the timber and bamboo features. Colours have been immaculately chosen, with amazing coordination brought right throughout, from the ceiling to the floor. Functional and stylish, copper sheeting has been used as a kickboard around the kitchen and as a dividing element to differentiate between the gorgeous timber flooring and bamboo cabinetry. Complementing both the style and palette of the design, the copper also brings a metallic element to an already gleaming project.

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Photography: Jacqui Melville

Designer: Camilla Molders

Cabinetry: Cabinet Smith – 03 9464 4384

Building: Hanto Developments – 0418 569 400

Camilla Molders Design

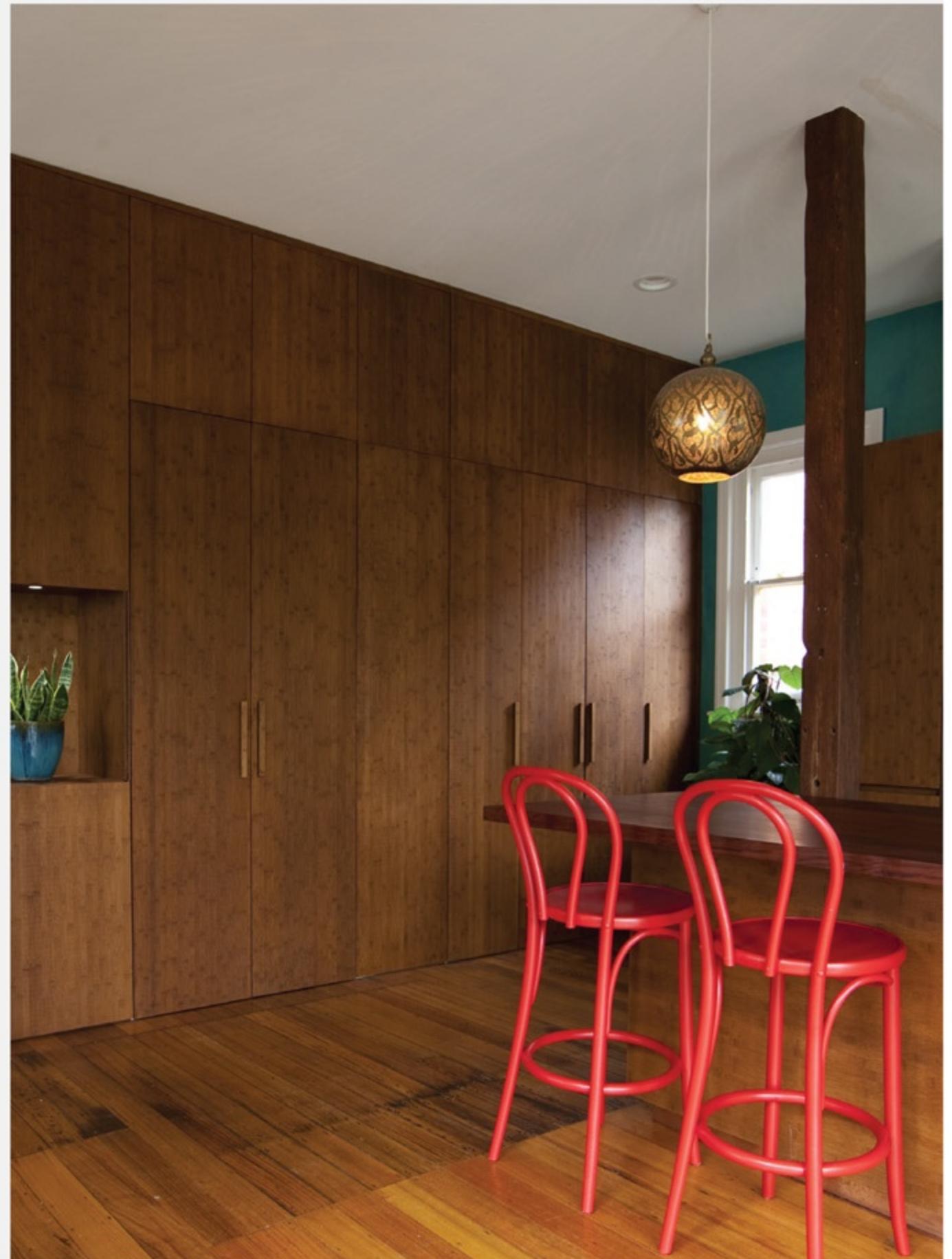
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European Eloquence

Eluding the norm, this 1940's inspired kitchen presents an eclectic style borrowed from a diversity of cultures around the world.





Eclectic and imaginative, this masterpiece by Patricia La Torre of OUTSIDEINSIDE Building Elements was inspired by the late 1940's, art deco theme that dominated the rest of the home. Sporting ornamental fittings and splashes of colour throughout, the kitchen blends functionality with classic style while providing all the benefits of ample storage.

From its humble beginnings as a dark and dreary cooking cave, it was Patricia's innovation and background in the history of art and architecture that enabled this space to assimilate with the rest of the home.

The black and white diamond tiled floors are a beautiful choice of flooring, reflecting the traditional European piazzas and adding an element of class to this multifaceted design. Adding colour to the design is the warm, red splashback that runs the length of the back wall and part of the side. Dark timber cabinetry takes pride of position around the kitchen, providing ample storage space and room to display cookbooks and appliances when not in use. In addition, the wine storage compartments embedded into the feature granite island counter match the 'cubed' styling of the cabinetry above.

One of the most prominent features of the kitchen however, is the large fixed window that is centred behind the cook-top and range hood. With a vision to brighten the area, a seldom used doorway was successfully converted into this wonderful new window. Bricked up to the height of the gorgeous African Black Granite counter top, it now provides ample light to the kitchen for cooking during the day when lights needn't be used.



For times when lights are necessary, beautiful Grecian styled light fixtures have been selected to continue the home's classic and dramatic theme, while 'ornamental express' by Laminex was used on some of the vertical surfaces of the kitchen to mirror the use of wrought iron that features around the home.

The intricacy and fine craftsmanship of the cabinetry in this design comes courtesy of Tony Bezzina of TCB Cabinets. Working closely with Patricia and OUTSIDEINSIDE, both during the conceptualisation, construction and installation stages, Tony ensured that the level of detail and quality inherent in the kitchen's design was reflected vividly in his cabinetry.

Functional, stylish and innovative are three words to describe this kitchen, decorated with diversity and brightened through innovation to create a magnificent kitchen that defies modern clinical design.

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Magnificent Marble

Classical materials merge with bold and artistic design in a luxurious and sharp kitchen.

Framed overhead by a bulkhead ceiling, this impressive marble kitchen stands as the focal point of an open and lofty space.

Grounding the living area, this stunning kitchen acts not only as a utilitarian space, but also as a piece of art, showcasing the unique twists and turns of the cool grey and white marble in glorious fashion.

Though the island bench top is a clean rectangle, the supports below extend at different angles, adding further depth and interest to the space. A mirrored column, located adjacent to the bench, perpetuates this feeling of volume and reflects the gorgeous view of the kitchen around the living space.

While being clean and modern, the space is a natural one, shrouded in organic elements that come together in a truly special design. Of course, the marble details are what first grab the eye, however the natural appeal of the timber floors ensure that attention is drawn throughout the space to take in the dining table, wicker chairs and leather couch.

Cupboard doors are crisp and white, with sleek, stainless steel handles extending down in an unusual fashion towards the rich timber floors. Though simple in the palette they create, the white cupboards and stainless steel appliances provide the perfect complimentary canvas for the grey and white marble to shine – with the assistance of some strategic and artistic lighting.

The wall of cabinetry is framed by a bronze metallic 2pac that runs into display and storage cabinetry backed by a floor to ceiling mirror. White floating shelves create a transparent surface for the exhibition of special glassware.

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Images Provided by Outside Square

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Juxtaposition

An absolutely gorgeous display of artistic fixtures and fittings, this one of a kind bathroom blends lines, colours and patterns in a spectacular display of design and craftsmanship.

A neat double vanity floats effortlessly above the floor, framed by bronze metallic 2pac and lit by sleek, twin, linear chrome light fittings. The vanity's clever design sees handleless cupboards assigned to each sink with shared drawers down the centre. A large, three-panel mirror overhangs the bench top and masks ample storage space. From below, the mirrors cast bright light down over the cool grey and white marble that coats the vanity surface. The marble extends up and back to become the splash back, framing twin white, platter-like basins with shiny chrome faucets sitting askew.

Tucked behind the vanity is an unassuming toilet, whose white colour blends with the walls giving it a sense of modesty and transparency. To the other side of the vanity are four chrome towel rails. Their wave like shape echoes that of the basins that sit nearby.

Across the room, sitting in sculptural glory at the junction between patterned wall and floor tiles of slightly different hues is a free-standing bath tub. Supplied by an independent chrome tap, the white, eggshell-like tub is a space to relax and unwind, free from distraction.

What is appealing about this bathroom is the juxtaposition between sharp, clean lines and linear symmetry and the fluid, organic shape of the bath tub, basins and towel rails. Together, these two completely different aesthetics become an artistic expression of quality bathroom design.

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Illusions

A small space does not have to mean a compromise on design and beauty, as seen in this cleverly conceived bathroom.





A divinely deep bath makes for a peaceful place to escape to after a long day and connect with one's inner thoughts. The tub is supplied by a cascading bath outlet that becomes a focal point of the entire space as its unique shape emulates the form of a tropical waterfall.

The rectangular shape of the bath is mimicked by the unusual basin, whose shelf-like, rimless nature creates an intriguing feature as the water shed from the geometric chrome tap gently falls back towards the wall.

Above the basin are generous, reflective storage cabinets that give the illusion that the room is larger than it is. The mirror clad cabinets were included to give an object-like quality that would echo the detailing of the stone and other architectural elements plus accentuate the light shining from above.

An open shower area shielded by sparkling glass furthers the illusion of spaciousness. Overhead, an adjustable and detachable shower head pours soft, warm water onto the skin. Practical niches were installed in the large shower to provide storage for soaps, cleansers and shampoos.

A wall mounted toilet suite is slight and unassuming, creating a free-flowing energy to the space.

The use of a single colour scheme increases the visual space to stunning effect, the simple, neutral colour giving a relaxed natural feel. Chocolate details to the window and shelving add a rich contrast to the cool natural stone. The decorative niche along the basin and shower was included to reflect a personal influence throughout the bathroom.

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Day Spa Retreat

A visual sight to behold of superior design and innovation, the relaxation experience of a deluxe day spa has been recreated to enjoy at home in this lovely washroom.





This once dark and restricted bathroom has been remodeled into a spacious and airy masterpiece, a haven of peace and tranquility that is derived from the relaxing nature of a day spa.

The most luxurious oval spa bath with headrests is filled with water from a cascading outlet that mimics a waterfall. The generous bath makes for the most deliciously relaxing escape from a busy day, a place to recline in comfort and enjoy the peaceful vista from the adjacent window.

The massive, louvered window located directly above the oval spa bath provides a stunning centerpiece, beautifully framing a gorgeous, lush gum tree whose foliage creates a calm and serene ambience. This feature wall forms an exquisite display that transpires an earthy nature to the room.

CaesarStone bench tops are interrupted by twin sinks, sitting above warm timber cupboards and drawers for storing all the pampering products one could need to enjoy the bathing experience. Exposed shelving allows for smaller towels to be displayed in a way similar to that at a day spa.

Above the sinks is a huge, three panel mirror extending up to the ceiling, that enhances the design's spatial element and conceals generous storage. Bursts of light shine from below the integrated mirrors onto a linear shelf where soaps and perfume bottles can be displayed. A similar niche is

formed over the bath where a down light illuminates a small sculpture, adding a personal element to the space.

A concealed cistern sits beside the vanity, across the room from which stands a frameless glass box that contains the shower. Keeping the shower open through the use of glass framing ensures that the space appears large and airy.

The majority of the bathroom is tiled in a wide, dark taupe tile. However, the bath tub, shower and niches are defined by a smaller mosaic in the same colour, enhancing the design. The use of a single organic colour scheme creates a sense of space and a stunning visual effect, giving a relaxed and natural feel.

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Nice and Simple

A heavenly white bathroom forms a sleek space that is warmed by clever design features.





The room is almost completely coated in shiny white tiles that are contrasted by a motley brown floor tile and a mosaic feature to the shower. The other ever so subtle contrast comes from a light, sandy-coloured stone that features around the bath tub and below the vanity mirrors.

Running the full length of the space are frameless, handleless mirrored cupboards that further reflect the lightness of the room. Just below runs a recessed shelf for practical access to frequently used bathroom items. This feature also gives the room a depth that can often be lost in monotone spaces.

Two, round basins protrude from the white tiled wall and are accented by chrome faucets. A chrome soap dispenser in the middle furthers the practicality of the vanity without compromising the aesthetic.

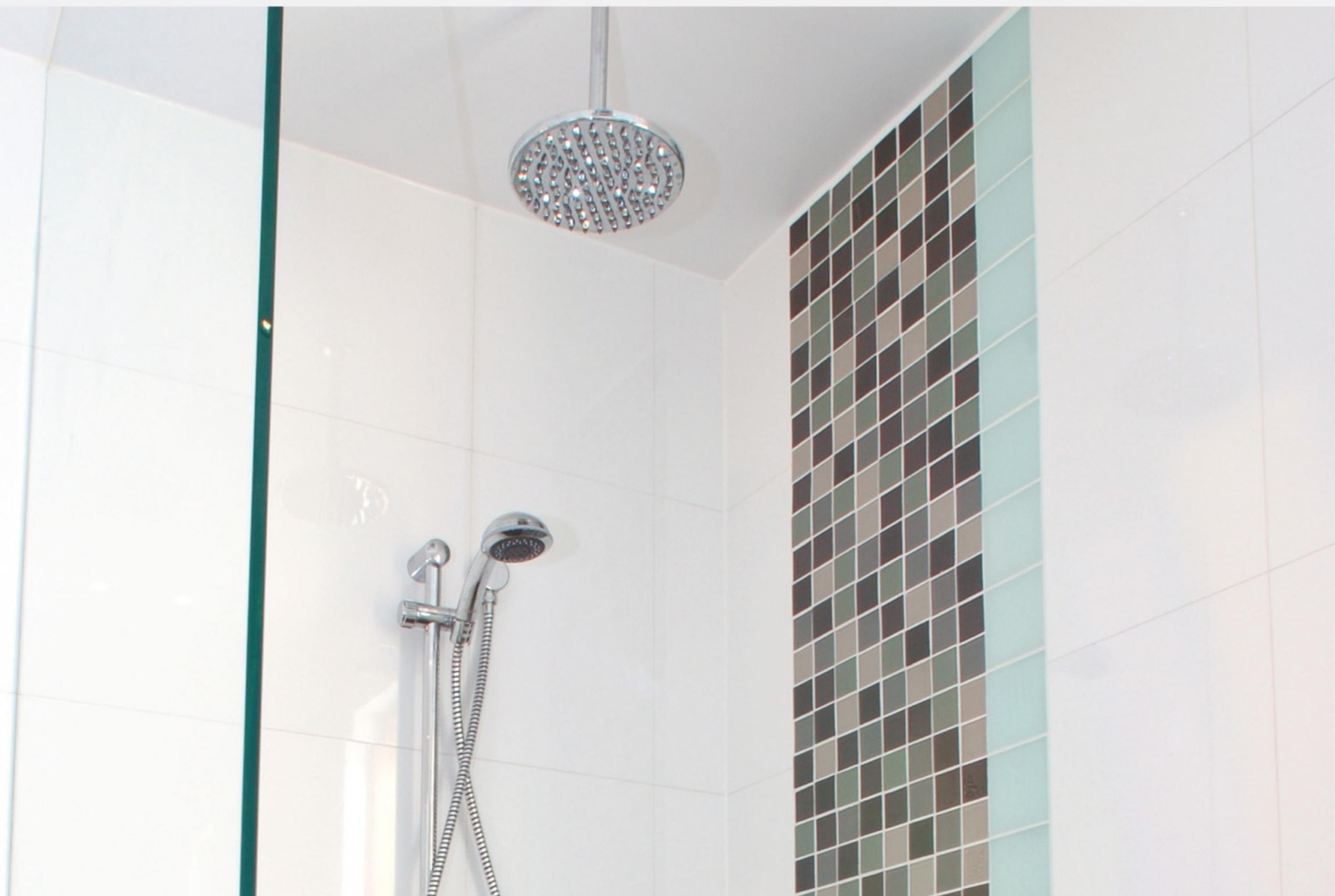
Across the room, a slight step takes you up to a clean white bath tub. Partial walls to either end of the tub enclose the space for a more private bathing experience, and also create a feeling of cosiness and warmth.

Behind the bath, the shower area is visible through a sheet of glass. Here, a luxurious showerhead sheds rain-like water from above, and a second detachable showerhead offers an alternative washing method. The adjustable tap is cleverly located at the entrance to the shower recess, so one can prepare the shower to the optimal temperature prior to getting in. Shades of light taupe to chocolate brown are randomly set in a linear tile feature that runs down the wall of the shower for a visually appealing feature to the space.

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Opulence at its Best

Dark tiles and mood lights create a sexy ambience in a perfectly balanced bathroom.





Polished Lashotor marble spreads a delicious, chocolate glaze over the bathroom's walls and floor. Streaks running through the tile make each rectangle a small abstract artwork in itself. The dramatic effect of the marble is made particularly magnificent by the complementary mosaic features that are expressed in a balanced fashion through the space.

White polished rectified tiles make a strong contrasting border to the entrance of the walk-in, doorless shower. The shower area is luxuriously appointed with two rain showers and a massage hand shower, with glass shelving for the recessed niches, evidence that no expense was spared.

Each feature is stunning in its own right, but perhaps the most striking are the flowing lines of the Apaiser composite stone vanity basins. The impressively artistic basins' bright white forms appear to defy gravity as they seemingly cantilever against the contrasting dark tiles. The neat symmetry created by the twin basins echoes a poise that is enjoyed throughout the space.

The Apaiser Reflection bath brings an organic element to the bathroom with its gorgeous curves and generous proportions. The layout of the room was carefully considered in terms of convenience and comfort, which saw the bath tub positioned for easy viewing of the television. The bidet and concealed wall faced toilet were incorporated for a free flowing energy.

Ambient lighting features are cleverly hidden in storage areas, so one can enjoy a relaxing bath or evening shower for two in a romantically lit room. Under floor heating was included for comfort and completes what is a truly blissful bathroom.

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Classic Beauty

This kitchen gives reference to the past with a façade that enhances the existing sensibility of the mid-century interiors while enclosing all the modern conveniences.





Rather than completely disrespecting the history of the mid-century home by renovating it beyond recognition of its true identity, Austin Design Associates worked with Blue Box Cabinet Makers as well as the home owners to cleverly and stylistically renew the 1960s aesthetic that is beautifully displayed in this neatly designed kitchen.

The original house featured some beautiful timber cabinetry that was followed through in the selection of stained walnut veneer for one half of the kitchen. Doors and drawer faces are handleless, ensuring the sleek and streamlined 1960s look of the room. A contrasting white Corian countertop marries the timber joinery with a wall of tall elements constructed from white 2pac in a satin finish. Here live all the large, stainless steel appliances, with smaller ones able to be hidden away behind a roller door.

In a space with so many unique features, the cantilevering bench is perhaps the most special. Protruding out and squared off at the end with a timber panel, the bench defines the kitchen and provides a lovely spot to sit atop the stylish stools and chat to the home chef whipping up dinner on the seamless induction cook top. An adjacent dining table is surrounded by typically 1960s style seating and is lit from above with a floating light fitting like that above the breakfast bar.

Flanking the window above the sink are two panels of olive green mosaic tiles that act as a splash back and really bring the room to life with a subtle

burst of colour. Further life is brought to the already charming kitchen through the owners' love of mid-century design, reflected in the display of vintage artwork and nick nacks.

A challenge arose when it came to the flooring, as the original parquetry could not be matched. What was chosen was an Amtico vinyl floor covering in a soft green tone that bounces off the splash backs and mimics the pattern of adjacent parquetry but on a larger scale.

Each element of the kitchen plays a significant roll in the composition of a room flooded with balance and proportion, breathing new life into a classic design era. The kitchen has a lovely individuality that reflects the personalities of the owners. Austin Design Associates have shone in this project, made particularly enjoyable by the adventurous clients keen for a kitchen that was a little different.

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Decorative Design

The renovation of a mid-century home in Melbourne's prestigious suburb of Beaumaris saw the design and construction of a contemporary kitchen that plays up to the open living areas it so effortlessly graces with beauty.





It is commonplace that modern kitchens are plain, their designers playing it safe with a space that is simple and unassuming. But along with the home's owner who has a keen interest in design and who built much of the home themselves, Austin Design Associates have created a warm, unique and enduring design.

Their clean but artistic aesthetic and ability to revolutionize their clients' dreams is reflected to magnificence in this Beaumaris kitchen where they have turned function into art, conveying the attention to detail the client desired.

What immediately strikes you about the space is the island bench and overhead canopy that in fact form the bulk of the kitchen. Having the cook top as a feature of the central island is common in European kitchens but not so much in Australia. This presented an opportunity for the space to be all the more left of centre. Putting the cook top and sink in the island meant that the rest of the kitchen is free for tall elements like the pantry, appliance cupboard, wall ovens and the fridge. It also allows for the cook to operate in the kitchen and entertain simultaneously.

The island is grounded by rich timber veneer, separated from the chunky white counter top by a black glass shelf at the front that provides an unexpected place to display nick nacks. Standing to attention at the end of the island are three upholstered stools with shiny chrome legs that reflect the light from the outside terrace, giving the room extra depth.

Floating above the bench is a sleek stainless steel canopy that integrates the range hood above the induction cook top. This adds an almost industrial element to the space, makes it cosy and is certainly unusual.

The clean space leaves one wondering where the fridge is, or where all the unavoidable mess goes? It is all integrated and tucked away in the adjacent walls of white cabinets.

In front of the kitchen sits a sleek chocolate dining table whose chrome legs intertwine with those of the white dining chairs. Over the table float two soft bubbles, whose dainty, fairy-floss like surfaces radiate the light they shine down to the table.

The space is completed by a clerestory window that runs its length, and Aboriginal wall art that ties in with interesting bits and pieces spread throughout.

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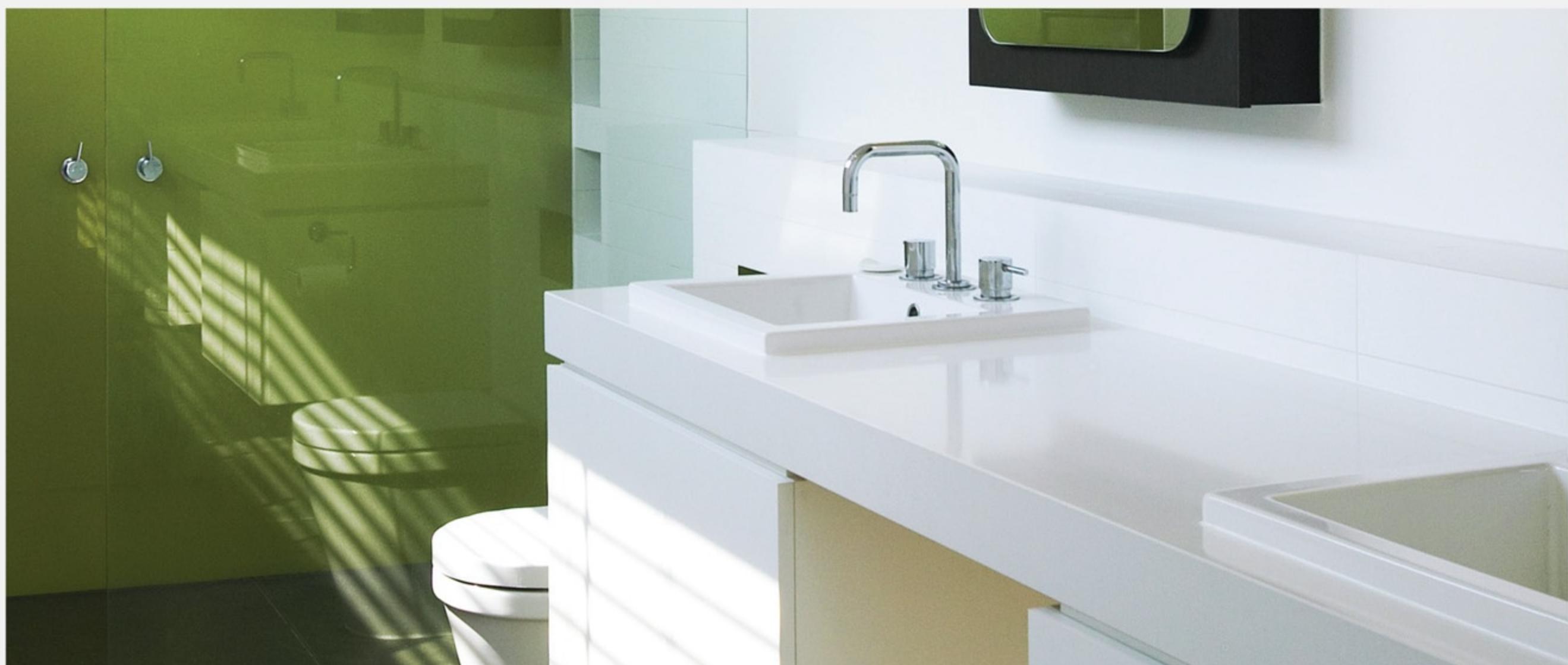
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Good to be Green

In a particularly special ensuite created by talented design company Austin Design Associates, boldness comes to life with a most striking feature.



The owners of the house were very open to the ideas Austin Design Associates presented and were keen on the use of colour – music to a designer's ears.

The bright green feature wall anchors the space and spreads the entirety of the walk-in shower wall. The colour was selected for its complimentary nature to the upholstery fabric of the bed head in the abutting master bedroom.

The ensuite bathroom is quite small and the jolt of colour at the end actually makes the space look larger. What makes the feature wall truly distinct is the colour backed glass, which gives a glossy and an atypically reflective surface that adds tangible dimension to an already multifaceted room.

Recessed shelving to the white, tiled wall that runs perpendicular to the deep lime green feature keeps the surface of the room fluid and provides convenient set-down space for soaps and shampoos.

On the other side of a ghostly glass wall whose presence is all but invisible,

sits a sleek white vanity with geometric sinks and sharp, defined surfaces that materialize the desired straight-edge aesthetic of the room.

Above a tiled splash back and shelf protrude two black boxes which frame the twin vanity mirrors. The edges of the mirrors are smoothed to a curve, giving that small but necessary rounded contrast to the space.

Large charcoal coloured tiles warm the bathroom, the monochromatic palette they create with the white walls and vanity a graceful stage for the lime green luminary that, after all, the room is all about.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography: Sharon Cairns

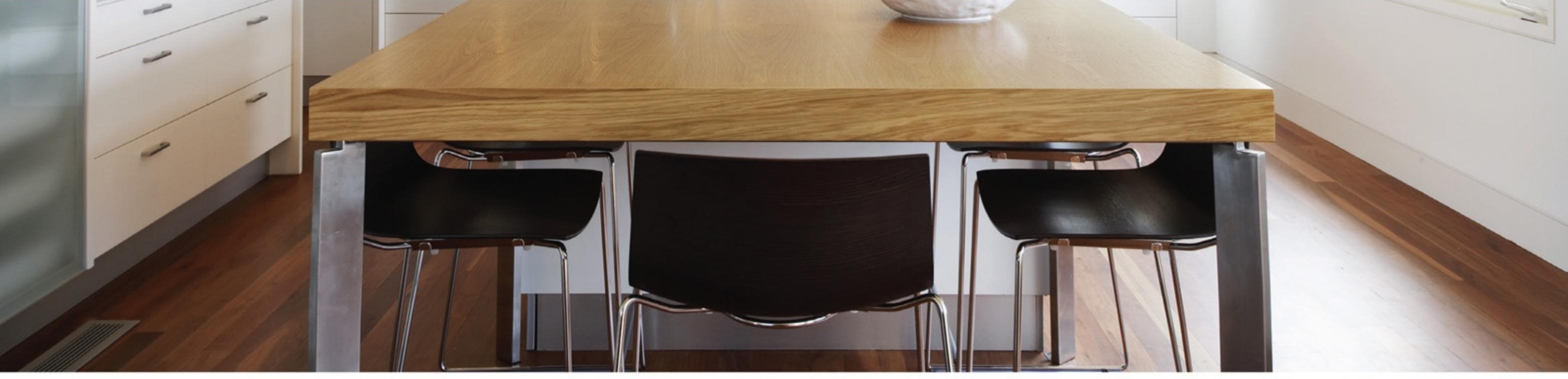
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Clever Space

The kitchen is the common hub of the family home. The design of this space is one that facilitates not only function but also relaxed interaction with the family.

Situated in the original part of a heritage listed 1956 mid-century house, the kitchen was relocated to its current position so that the bay views could be enjoyed by the whole family.

The premier feature of the kitchen is the large island bench that centers the room. Its unique quality is found in the American Oak table top to one end, flowing on seamlessly from Stone Italiana Japiur Vanilla in a very natural finish. Custom designed stainless steel legs sit at a 45 degree angle, adding an extra dimension to the island. The table top to one end, lit from above by an elegant light fitting, is a clever solution to a small space. Here a relatively generous dining area is created where a table and chairs would not fit, forming a gathering point for family and friends to enjoy the views.

The home chef of the family wanted to enjoy the lovely bay views available while they completed the arduous task of washing the dishes. This request was delivered by designing the kitchen sink to go in the island bench that faces out the large window that serves to brighten the room.

Against the wall is a generous cooking area with gas hob stove, above which is an unassuming range hood that is integrated into what appears as an element of the wall. Running parallel to the sleek, stainless steel bench top is a shelf of the same material, framing the splash back and forming a place for cook books and the like.

The popular shutter door feature reappearing in many kitchens is taken to another level with an oversized version concealing small, frequently used appliances. Beside this is the large glass door screen and crockery cupboard, their transparent nature aiding the illusion of extra space. Hidden around the corner are two large appliance cupboards and the fridge. Concealing these elements mean that when the family dine in the room that don't feel like they're really in the kitchen.

Heavenly white walls and cabinetry are brought to earth by rich, multi-toned timber floors that communicate the home's history beneath its new identity.

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Photography: Sharon Cairns

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Sheer Class

A uniquely large ensuite becomes part of the modern refurbishment of a mid-century classic, forming an opulent space for two.

The clients wanted a large, hotel-style ensuite where they could relax and not feel confined by the small space often afforded master suite bathrooms. What was achieved is an open and easy flowing space, with room to move from the shower to the bath to the basin in uninterrupted luxury. Sliding glass doors even open the room up further to an outdoor terrace.

Heavenly bright white walls and glass features are grounded by quality porcelain tiles to the floor and feature wall. These look very much like bluestone, which was used extensively for the landscaping outside. They require very little maintenance, unlike real stone, and give the room a warmth and sassiness.

Set against the dark grey feature wall is an oversized white free-standing bath. This was the main feature desired by the clients, and one which incited the overall size of the space. The graceful white form is backed by a chrome towel rack and a small brushed chrome shelf for soaps and salts. Imbedded above in the white ceiling are three down lights that shine askew towards the grey wall for sensual mood lighting when bathing.

Cantilevering from a white tiled wall to the other end of the room is a sleek vanity with a hefty CaesarStone bench top. Floating the structure this way above the bathroom floor increases the overall visual dimension of the room and creates a signature modern look. Below the bench top are four drawers, handleless to achieve the seamless look desired. The wide mirror is illuminated by two light fittings on either side and tricky beauty regimes are made easy by a magnifying mirror.

Beside the vanity, opaque glass conceals the toilet. This gives the area privacy and allows for multiple people to use the room at once. The twin showers are similarly located behind floor to ceiling glass, an element that further accentuates the overall space in what is a truly luxurious bathroom, unmatched in its quality design and relaxing ambience.

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Federation Charm

The charm of the old federation mansion in which this apartment is located is carried into its renovation, with a kitchen that is sympathetic to the building's heritage.





The conversion of the mansion into apartments took place in the 1980s. The Beech veneer and black granite kitchen that still existed when the clients purchased the apartment was tired and far from functional, built in a 'U' shape which made getting in and out difficult.

Initially, Austin Design Associates visited to consult on a couple of furniture items. The owners were so impressed by their vision for the space that Austin Design Associates was employed to renovate the whole apartment.

When it came to the kitchen, it was decided that an island bench would allow the space to flow more freely, also creating a focal point for entertaining friends. Three bar stools sit below the Calcutta marble bench, unobtrusively providing a casual dining area that is framed by traditional skirting boards running around the island.

The bright white kitchen that stretches behind strikes a perfect balance between old and new. Beveled doors to overhead cupboards remain handleless, providing an element of sleekness that still reflects the decorative sensibility of the home's era. Austin custom designed the range hood to suit the style of the kitchen and fully integrated the fridge given that the kitchen was open to the living area. Grey streaks of the marble dance

playfully behind the sink and cook top, between which display shelving sits above a roller door that hides small appliances.

Timber floors, a dining table rich with historical integrity and well placed personal items come together to create a warm and inviting room that the clients just love to cook and entertain in.

It was a challenge working on a first floor apartment accessible only by stairs, but with the help of a great builder with particular experience renovating apartments – Open Plan Homes – the project was a complete success.

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White Room

Dazzling in shiny white is this modern kitchen that effortlessly graces a recently renovated Victorian home.





In renovating their Victorian home, the clients requested a clean and seamless design. Though the modern outcome is sleek, it does not detract from the heritage tone of the home.

Glossy white 2pac lines the cupboards, bench tops and drawer faces that enjoy a smooth finish with no handles to be seen. Even the rangehood makes the most minimal impact to the kitchen's façade. All cupboards and drawers are fitted with Blum hardware, chosen for its user friendliness and ease of use.

High end appliances include a huge Bosch gas hob stove and double fronted fridge complete with ice and chilled water dispenser. The adjacent sink is equally generous with double basins, making washing up a breeze.

Floating above the island bench are three trumpet-like pendant lights that brighten the expansive breakfast bar. The white glossy bar stools

perpetuate the stark aesthetic of the space. Behind this area, two cupboard doors open up a concealed desk, whose office surface can be hidden away with ease.

Behind a floor to ceiling cupboard door lies a neat butler's pantry. Here, accessible shelves and drawers hold grocery items and a spacious bench provides room to make toast and tea. A large freezer accommodates the overflow from the main Frigidaire.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography: Andrew Lecky

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Good Things Come In Threes

Milan Cabinet Makers showcase three of the best bathrooms in one home. Each one generously sized, they each feature the latest in bathroom appointment, with a complementary palette and natural light aplenty.

Milan Cabinet Makers have maintained the level of class showcased throughout this home, in the three lavish bathrooms.

In the main bathroom, large format tiles line the walls, stopping close to the ceiling, where a coat of white paint creates an assumption of elegance. Sleek, white cabinetry without handles is used in each, articulating rooms of seamless usability and style.

Sympathetic to the colour scheme, the ceiling and cornice have been painted a subtle beige colour, while the glistening bath tub is set in a structure covered in a mosaic of varying brown colour.

Stylised stainless steel fixtures have been carefully selected in each of the rooms, with towel racks, taps and shower heads alike of high quality. A large double skylight situated above the double vanity basins provides natural light, opening the space up visually and creating a more inviting ambience for occupants.

Frameless showers are the feature of each of the bathrooms, which retain the full depth of the space without obstruction. In the master ensuite, a slightly different palette has been used. Rather than lavish, the room takes

on a more contemporary feel with textured, light brown tiles once again covering the wall up to a certain point.

Floating toilets are one of the highlights of the room, with no visible pipes or cisterns to make the area clunky and cramped.

The second ensuite takes on the same scheme as the master ensuite, with brown, textured wall tiles and tan coloured floor tiles. An exception to this is the single vanity that features in this room.

Executed with class and brilliance, the bathrooms in this home offer occupants an inviting experience where functionality and refinement come together with grace.

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Photography: Matthew Mallet

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A Breath Of Fresh Air

Clean, crisp lines are attributed to the appeal of this classy modern design. With a dominating palette of white and a healthy flood of natural light this is a truly inspiring, functional work of art and a joy to dwell in.

In this classy composition by Milan Cabinet Makers, a fresh approach has been taken in updating the kitchen of an established heritage home. Set against a rich Turpentine timber floor, a strong palette of white dominates the kitchen, affording a crisp presentation that surely amazes.

From a large bulkhead formed above the gorgeous island bench, four pendant lights dangle, offering subtle light during the twilight, while a row of LED lights emit a soft glow from above. Adding depth and ambience to the room creates a more enjoyable experience visually, but also suggests luxury and class. During daylight hours, two clerestory windows spanning the width of the kitchen flood the room with natural light.

Ample storage space is hidden with style behind glossy, white cabinets with quality stainless steel appliances and fixtures to complement their purity. Of course, the most impressive feature of this well crafted kitchen is its bench top. Made from CaesarStone in Osprey, its thickness assures quality, durability and elegance. Tucked underneath the bold bench top, a wine cooler is the perfect accessory for entertaining guests in the generous space adjoining the kitchen area.

To the right of the kitchen a set of large pantries is positioned, which offer extensive storing of food and kitchen equipment.

As if there weren't enough to admire, there is also a fully serviceable butler's pantry situated through a door to the left of the kitchen. Featuring ample storage space, a sink and plenty of bench space for food preparation, it makes this home something of a dream to entertain in.

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Complete Contrast

The renovation of an original and untouched Federation period home in the trendy Melbourne suburb of Fitzroy saw the construction of an ultra sleek and modern kitchen that is both visually appealing and user friendly.





As with most kitchens in older Federation homes, this one was tired, difficult to use and closed off from the living spaces. Milan Cabinets came to the rescue and designed a completely new space that was bright and open, encouraging interaction between the kitchen and the living and dining areas.

What is immediately striking is the contrast between rich timber veneer and glossy white 2pac. A wall of veneer cupboards integrates the fridge, freezer, dishwasher, microwave and food storage. The impressively imposing wall provides grounding for the U-shaped kitchen bench that extends from it. Stretching the wall behind the cook top is a clean and modern stainless steel splash back. Expansive counter tops are serviced above and below by smooth, handleless cupboards and draws. To the end of the overhead cupboards is a sectioned wine storage unit that is both convenient and visually interesting.

Linear windows behind the sink and above the overhead cabinets flood the bright and open space with plenty of natural light.

The breakfast bar is a practical and convenient space to serve from, entertain guests, or just relax with the paper and a cup of coffee. The warm chocolate brown leather bar stools tie in with the timber cabinets, connecting the white with the brown to avoid disparity. Overhead, an elegantly twisting and turning light fixture adds the perfect finishing touch.

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Less is more

This design suggests that less really is more. Exuding elegance with a bevy of 'white and light', Milan Cabinetmakers pursue a sleek and subtle style, which emanates throughout the home.

Stainless steel and white dominate the kitchen palette, with a glistening splashback and under bench feature which captures the light from adjacent doors and windows. This is complemented by quality kitchen appliances such as the oven, cook-top and range hood, as well as the gorgeous French door fridge.

The epitome of modern chic design, this kitchen offers ample room to prepare food and serve guests over the dark stone waterfall bench top. Thick and solid, it also provides a disconnection from the rest of the design, while simultaneously melding it together as it wraps around the perimeter, past the cook-top and towards the gloss white cabinetry.

With nary a handle or door knob in sight, the seamlessness continues

allowing for a greater experience of modern aesthetics. The kitchen features a raised ceiling, while a hefty bulkhead is positioned over the main bench top with in-built lighting for those darker days or during nightfall.

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Sleek Beauty

Optimistic style and utter brilliance resonate from this gorgeous design by Milan Cabinetmakers. With a minimalistic approach, subtle occurrences of metallic silver and stainless steel capture the eye and transform this bathroom and ensuite into rooms to be admired.

Upon entering the ensuite, a clinical palette of whites and greys allow occupants to feel fresh and uplifted, with sleek lines and interesting patterns to balance a seemingly smooth textural experience. Twin sunken basins are set in a dark, stone vanity unit with recessed, gloss white cabinetry below. Each of the doors and draws are without handles, adding to the seamlessness of the room, while modern, quality fixtures grace the shower and basins.

Overhead lighting is abundant, while vanity lights are used when a more subtle light is required. With pure white walls that blend into the ceiling, a tough, large-format, grey scale tile helps to ground the design, while contrasting grout allows it to sit in assimilation with its surroundings. By far, the most impressive feature of this magnificent bathroom is the glass shower panel with embedded flecks of stainless steel. Not only does it act as the focal point of the room, but it also offers an interesting aesthetic effect, while providing a somewhat functional solution.

Moving into the main bathroom, care has obviously been taken in allowing for a continuous experience. Minus one basin, this room features the same tiles, cabinetry, basin, fixtures, lighting and that magnificent glass shower panel. However, there are two features, which set this room apart.

Long, rectangular windows either side of the single vanity flood the room with natural light, creating a pleasant ambience that cannot be achieved with artificial light. Secondly, above the large rectangular bathtub, a large stainless steel mosaic splashback has been installed. Due to its size and the incorporated pattern, this element adds a new dimension to the room, creating texture and harmony between each of the elements.

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FUN, FAST & FABULOUS FOOD

A Practical Guide to Home Entertaining

Alison Taafe

Alison Taafe

Kitchen for a Master

Afforded the unique challenge of designing a kitchen for an industry professional, Kitchen Trends drew on their extensive experience to create a haven for cooking and invention.





When highly acclaimed masterchef Alison Taafe was looking for a new kitchen, she commissioned Brad Hunt of Kitchen TRENDS to design a highly functional kitchen where she, and others, would feel engaged and inspired to create culinary masterpieces. And that is exactly what Kitchen TRENDS delivered.

Having cooked for American Presidents, European royalty, movie stars and captains of Industry as part of her culinary career across the continents, Alison is accustomed to the highest level of appointments.

It was imperative that Kitchen TRENDS supply her with not only the tools she needed to further her success in the kitchen, but to also ensure that everything was easily accessible.

A wall of chocolate Polytec cabinetry anchors the kitchen and forms the housing for an enormous pantry, double door fridge and an integrated coffee machine. Spreading out from here towards the open plan living spaces is a kitchen whose off-white cupboards and drawers directly contrast this gourmet kitchen. Drawers are fitted with soft closing Grass Drawers by Häfele and are accessed by sleek stainless steel handles.

A heavy duty gas cook top is backed by a red glass splashback that curves up to nestle into the arching rangehood above. This striking feature sits next to two identical ovens that make baking a breeze.

Spread across the work areas is sandy-coloured CaesarStone that makes for a tough surface that is also a gorgeous medium between the light and dark cabinetry.

Alison is so thrilled with her new kitchen, there'll be no keeping her out of it.

Photography courtesy of Rory Du Pre Moore

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Urban Bathroom Concepts



Urban Bathroom Concepts

Masters of The Trade

Renette Burne and Paul Hutchison fulfill their passion for design through Urban Bathroom Concepts



Renette Burne Profile

Renette Burne is a qualified Interior Designer with extensive knowledge and experience in both the kitchen and bathroom Industry. With over nine years of experience and a Certificate IV in Interior Design, Renette's product knowledge and experience enables her to provide a personalised design service. Focusing on practical and up-to-date space saving solutions, Renette will transform your kitchen or bathroom into a stunning new space that is not only functional but complimentary to your home.

A love of colour and textures means she particularly enjoys adapting her designs to a variety of different styles that reflect individual client needs and requirements. Her passion for design, styling and attention to detail creates a perfect personal environment. Her masterful interior design skills resonate with her impeccable and intuitive eye.

Renette's achievements include a HIA commendation for Project of the Year in 2007 and more recently, South Australian HIA CSR Kitchen Designer of 2010.



Paul Hutchison Profile

Paul is a Certified Kitchen Designer and a Certified Bathroom Designer of which there are only a few professionals with both accreditations to their name in Australia. His move from Melbourne to Adelaide to join Urban Bathrooms Concepts is exciting for the team, and for clients alike who can now draw on his knowledge and experience to turn their home renovations into very individual and special spaces.

Paul's twenty years of experience has proven his ability to implement practical and functional solutions for kitchens and bathrooms that have design flair and exhibit imagination.

He has been awarded in excess of twenty major design awards between 2003 and 2010, six of them being top Australian awards, such as HIA Australian Bathroom Designer of the year 2008 and 2009, and KBDI Australian Bathroom Designer of the Year 2009.

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Close to Heaven

Below playfully angled rooflines, relaxing spaces are formed with simple yet opulent fixtures and features.

With the main bathroom located in the roof space of this suburban house, the interesting lines overhead set the tone for an unusual and luxurious washroom.

Perhaps the most gorgeous feature, the freestanding oval bath, afforded its own separate space. With light pouring in through the windows and reflecting off the bright white surfaces of the walls, floor and tub, this room feels like one's very own heaven. Accessed through a framed archway that appears like the pearly gates, the absolute minimalist approach to this space fosters uninterrupted and relaxed bathing.

In the main room, an all-encompassing mirror, complete with lighting, backs a huge custom-made vanity. Matching basins sit like serving dishes atop the rich chocolate bench top. Below, large draws provide plenty of space for stashing products, towels and appliances.

Opposite the vanity runs a chic wall of glass enclosing a stepless shower area with shelving for easy access to shampoo and soap. A feature stainless steel grate collects all the water shed from the adjustable shower head.

Polished porcelain travertine wall and floor tiles brighten the room creating an unmatched opulence. Chocolate porcelain tiling behind the shower makes for a visual feature.

Downstairs, the existing bath and ensuite were opened up to accommodate a spacious new ensuite and a wardrobe for the master suite. The result is a beautiful, opulent space, mirroring the aesthetic of the upstairs bathroom.

A new powder room was designed to incorporate the same rich feel again, but with a slightly more period theme. The beautiful marble bench top compliments decorative beveled mirrors, with wall lighting creating a welcoming and comforting atmosphere.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography: David Finnegan - Sense 6

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Slender Perfection

Following the lines of the slender Victorian terrace in which it lives, this striking, linear kitchen provides a generous cooking and living space.





It is only fitting that John Perini, being a master at kitchen and bathroom design, have his own kitchen represent the skill and talent he brings to his client's designs. To update his terrace house, John wanted a kitchen with clean lines and a limited colour palette. The space needed to be modern, but not so that it lost its ability to blend effortlessly with the rest of the home.

The design solution involved a simple surface that would be accented by striking minimal decorative elements. The natural stone floors are crosscut travertine, which spread lovely, motley patterns underfoot. Cabinets are bright white and include a long workspace with drawers and overhead cupboards along with full height pantries/cupboards connected by a slender shelf that runs behind the dining table.

A huge gas hob stove is backed by a glass metallic splashback. This surface extends onto the doors of the overhead cupboards, giving the room extra height and accentuating the illumination from above. The metallic colour of the splashback is similar to the stainless steel of the fridge, stove, dishwasher and other appliances, which helps maintain a restricted colour palette.

A sturdy, mahogany-stained dining table stands out against the light colours of the floor and white upholstered chairs. To keep things cosy during dinner parties, a long, linear radiating heater is cleverly integrated beneath the adjacent shelf.

Overhead, an Emporite pelmet runs the perimeter of the kitchen, from under which downlights cast bright bursts of luminosity onto the shiny white surfaces.

Multi-coloured accents are introduced by way of floral arrangements and bright paintings of the Italian Riviera. The sophistication of the space and discerning tastes of its owners is expressed by a large, colourful, vintage Florio poster, framed to match the dining table.

Given that this kitchen was part of a renovation of a Victorian terrace circa 1898, there was a lot of preparation involved. One can by no means tell, with beautifully clean, crisp surfaces merging seamlessly with the remainder of the house. Another glory of the room is that it expresses a modernity that does not disrespect or take away from the home's period history.

Editorial: Jade de Souza

Photography: David Finnegan - Sense 6

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Showroom Spectacle

Established in 1975, Perini Tiles is a family business that has gained a reputation for providing not only opulent products but also expert advice and professional, personalized service.





Perini Tiles in Richmond, Victoria, is a haven for architects, interior designers, trades people, home buyers and renovators alike. The distinctive blend of exclusive products from mosaic, stone, porcelain, ceramic and glass to wallpaper are set across two extensive levels, each designed to inspire and excite visitors, helping them turn their dream into a reality.

The outstanding Onyx front desk sets the tone for the 'WOW' factor tile range. Lain across the ground floor and glistening to stunning affect is a showcase of the vast range of porcelain, glass and ceramic tiles.

Dedicated to a beautiful range of luxurious wallpapers from Holland and the gorgeous Bisazza mosaics, is the first floor. Wallpaper is making a comeback as a home décor element, with plenty of styles and flocks available for application around the home. Perini's extensive range makes available unique textures and patterns that will both compliment and contrast block wall colours and make a bold statement to highlight a space.

The final showroom displays Perini's stone choices of travertine, marble, terrazzo, onyx and gemstone.

The showroom is overseen by Robert and Mark Perini and interior designers, available for all who visit to consult for advice on their selections. Combined, the pair share over 40 years experience in the retailing and contracting aspects of the business, making their expertise invaluable to the architects, designers, builders and general public they deal directly with every day.

Perini's tiling contracting service means that all tiling requirements are available in one shop. Mark, who supervises the tilers, is proud to say that his reliable team are always on time, clean, efficient and experienced in laying Bisazza mosaics, glass, marble, porcelain, ceramic and other natural stones.

From the showroom, John Perini – Robert and Mark's father – operates Perini Bathroom and Kitchen Design and Construct, wherein he personally works with clients to incorporate their ideas into a final design and oversees all facets of projects.

Assisting in projects of all sizes, the Perini family and their team of qualified specialists in unique and innovative design and application, will deliver products and services that leave their clients thrilled with the result.

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Perfect Composition

Relish in the brilliance of this generously sized bathroom and ensuite created by Perini Bathrooms. With ample room to move about freely amongst a bright palette of white, each of the bathrooms are both inviting and functional in composition.

Innovation is expressed freely in the main bathroom with double vanity including ample storage, oversized walk-in shower, large free standing acrylic bath sans spouting and ducted heating. But perhaps the most impressive feature is the fully functional euro-laundry, tucked away behind a double cupboard. Not only is this a clever use of space, but it is also used in a way that assimilates into the surrounding design without intruding.

Large format porcelain tiles grace the floor in a dark tone which contrasts the dominant palette of white, and highlights the featured elements of the room – such as the gorgeous freestanding bath. Behind a large fixed glass panel is the walk-in shower. Quality stainless steel fixtures have been used throughout both of the bathrooms, while the specially plumbed floating toilets are an amazing sight, with no cistern visible.

Seamlessness is accentuated here, with a sleek approach to design. All unnecessary elements have been removed from sight, leaving only the most important aspects of a bathroom to be enjoyed by its occupants.

Feature mosaic tiling made from Murano Glass has been used on the back wall of the bathroom and is reflected around the room by the large mirror above the vanity. Creating a wonderful effect, it also varies the use of colour and tone in the room, introducing texture and pattern. In addition, a large window and skylight allow the warmth of natural light to enter the room freely.

Styled in much the same way, the ensuite features the same stone vanity bench top and dual basins with glossy white cabinets and silver handles. The floating toilet once again makes an appearance in this space, while the slightly smaller shower has gained a frameless door. Again, the feature tiling is used on one of the walls for added effect.

Editorial: Corey Thomas

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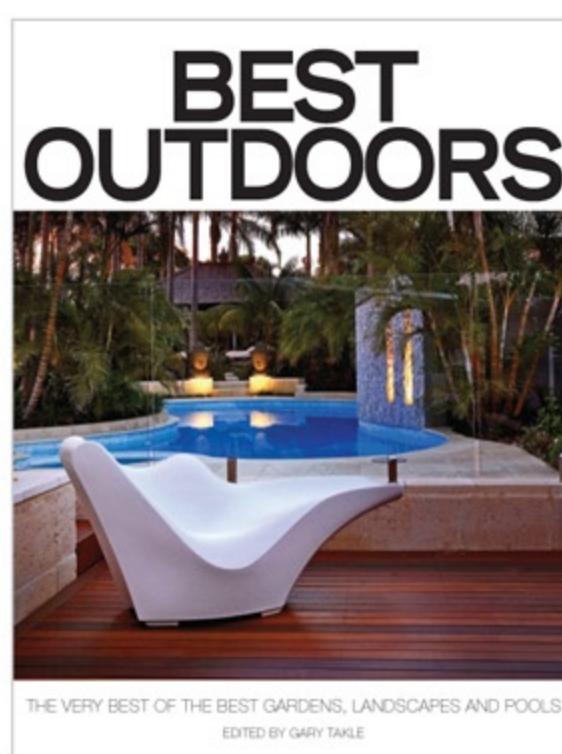
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We view our readers as our friends. We equip them with accurate information so that they can have the inspiration to create the most workable and pleasing home for their lifestyles.



After the huge success of 'Best Abodes', Media Art One launches a new book series that showcases the very best that Australia has to offer in garden, landscape and pool design.

Editor Gary Takle, publisher of Media Art One's architectural and design magazines, has an eye for finding designs that have that certain 'Best Of' appeal.



The 'Best' series is an inspirational set of pictorial books filled with what is 'now' in Australian architecture and design. Each book will grab the reader's attention and will walk them through a selection of Australia's best homes and gardens. In these modern times, our homes are becoming our sanctuaries and Australians are spending more time and money on their personal dwelling spaces. Featuring floor plans and informative editorial, each book instructs the reader on how they can achieve a result that says 'wow'.

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